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The Long Island FISHERMAN

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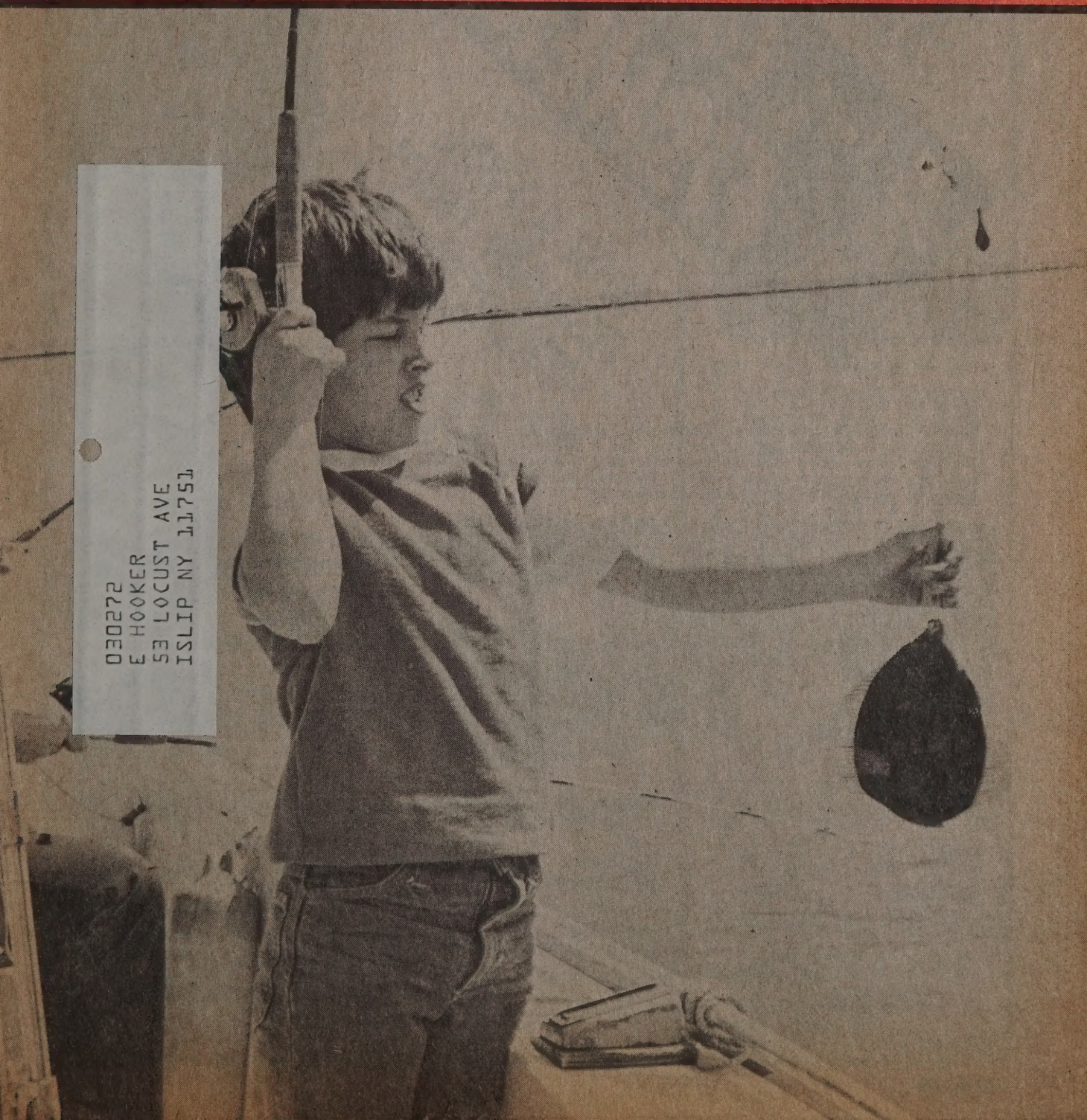
October 15th, 1981 ★ Volume 16, Number 41 ★ 16th Year of Publishing ★ SEVENTY-CENTS



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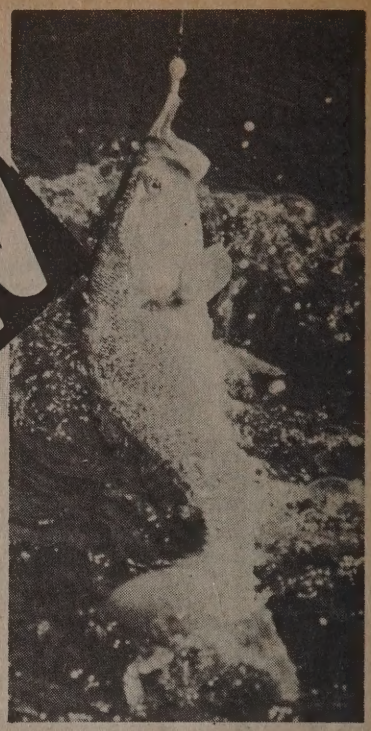

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No call was received by the Wednesday deadline, therefore there is no winner for last week's L.I.F. Bumper Sticker Contest.

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About the Cover—

South Shore flounder fishing is off to a great start in Moriches Bay and South Oyster Bay. See this week's fishing reports for more details. Cover by Dick Mermon.

COMING NEXT WEEK: **SURF FISHING AT MONTAUK**

Richard Reina PUBLISHER
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Pete Barrett CONTRIBUTING EDITOR
W.A. Muller MANAGING EDITOR
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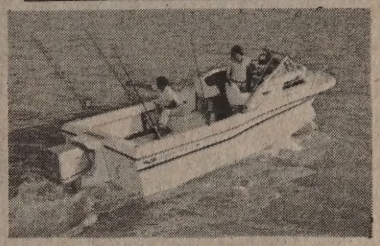

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Pass It On...

DOMINIC JAC ANGELO RUNNING FOR COUNTY LEGISLATURE

We felt it was imperative to let those of you know, who do not already know, that Mr. JacAngelo is running for the County Legislature, 13th Legislative District, Suffolk. Mr. JacAngelo has been working in Senator Johnson's office for 5 years. During that time he has worked tirelessly with Senator Johnson for conservation, environmental and recreational fishing legislation (trawl ban in Great South Bay). In addition, he has been most helpful, assisting LIF on key issues behind the scenes. These efforts have helped us to be successful in any number of areas. Those of you who read our editorials regularly are well aware of the number and variety of issues that have been successfully resolved with the help of Mr. JacAngelo. It is clear that Mr. JacAngelo has a profound commitment to protecting recreational fishing on Long Island, as well as protecting Long Island's marine habitats. Those of you who are interested in these issues and live in the Lindenhurst-West Babylon area will want to consider this when voting on November 3, 1981.

FREE BOATING COURSE

The Great Neck Power Squadron is offering a free comprehensive boating course to all interested persons for their safety on the water so as to avoid accidents of the type we have been reading about in the news here of late.

The 10-week course begins on Tuesday, Oct. 13, at the Great Neck North Senior High School at 8:30PM and on Thursday, Oct. 15, at the Great Neck South Senior High School also at 8:30PM.

For additional information, call 516-944-7900 during the day or 516-466-2006 evenings.

LOOKING FOR SHARK TAGGER!

A shark tag was recovered that was issued in 1976 by a Mr. John Charlton, formerly of the Star Island Yacht Club. It is requested that he contact Jack Casey at (401) 789-9326, or Captain Joe McBride at (516) 588-1227. he **MAY** call Collect. This is very important!!!

SHIMANO ON DISPLAY AT MERRICK TACKLE

See the fishing tackle of tomorrow today at a free advance showing of the complete Shimano line on Saturday, October 24, from 10AM-4PM at Merrick Tackle Center, 2655 Merrick Road, Bellmore.

At this first showing in the Long Island area of the entire 1982 product line of Shimano rods and reels, the company representative will show you how to work with bait casters and spinning reels, and will demonstrate how a reel's drag system can spell the difference between fish for supper and a tale about "the one that got away."

Continuous free demonstrations on fly-tying, bucktail-tying, rigging and rod building are also being offered, and free drawings for a variety of tackle products will be held every hour. So come, spend the day, learn the reel facts and let the Shimano experts tackle your individual fishing problems and answer your questions.

TUNA POLITICS: A NEW DEVELOPMENT

Chairmen of the Gulf and East Coast Regional Fishery Management Councils received letters from Rep. Edwin Forsythe (R-NJ), the ranking minority member of the House Fisheries Subcommittee, urging the Councils to take whatever steps necessary to protect billfish, regardless of what impact such action might have upon Japanese longliners operating under the U.S. 200-Mile Limit.

"Notwithstanding the exemption given tunas in the Fishery Conservation and Management Act, it is the clear intent of that Act that U.S. fishermen be given the first priority access to U.S. fishery resources. This philosophy was reaffirmed in the American Fisheries Promotion Act which established a specific procedure for phasing out foreign fishing in the U.S. Fishery Conservation Zone as the U.S. harvest increases. If by applying the phaseout provisions to the billfish fishery, the result is that foreign tuna fishery is closed or reduced, then so be it. To allow foreign tuna fishing to dictate the level of the U.S. billfish harvest is contrary to the fundamental purposes of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act as well as the American Fisheries Promotion Act. Foreign fishing interests should not control the pace and the direction of U.S. fishing industry development."

Asked to comment on Forsythe's letter, Coalition staff Ken Hinman said, "I think it's great as far as it goes, and I certainly hope the State Department reads it; but I'm not sure I understand where he's coming from. The problem is caused by the fact that billfish are overfished not because of U.S. fishing industry development. I can't help thinking that what's involved here is an attempt to blur the issues and drive a wedge between advocates of the tuna amendment in Florida and the Gulf states on the one hand and fishermen in the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast on the other. The reason to control tuna fishing is concern for the condition of tuna stocks which may well be approaching a crisis point. The reason for

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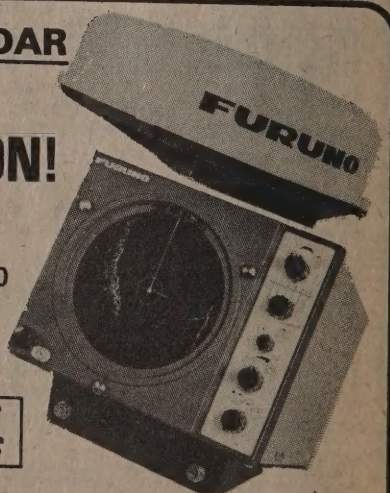

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controlling marlin fishing is that even NMFS admits that blue marlin are at least fully exploited and white marlin have been overfished for years. Solving the tuna problem may solve the marlin problem, but solving the marlin problem will not solve the tuna problem, because even if you knocked out the longline catch of giant tunas (which would be very beneficial to marlins), continued fishing for small bluefins at current levels would imperil the species. What we have on our hands is an apparent population crisis, and the way to handle it is as a biological crisis not a political or foreign policy problem."

So long as there is uncontrolled foreign longlining inside the 200-Mile Limit there will be a big by-catch of swordfish, sharks and closures to solve the problem, but the State Department will fight this, and the Secretary of Commerce will undoubtedly go along with State. In any case, this won't solve the bluefin problem, and bluefin are in worse shape than billfish."

BOWHUNTING SCHOOL TO BE HELD AT ELDRED PRESERVE IN OCTOBER

The Catskill School of Bowhunting, the first such school to be scheduled in the northeast, will be held for three days: October 23, 24 and 25, on the grounds of the 2,000-acre Eldred Preserve, Rt. 55, between Barryville and White Lake, Sullivan County, N.Y., in the heart of Catskill Mountain deer country.

Lectures and field demonstrations will cover such subjects as bowhunting gear, tuning tackle, use of camouflage and scents, cover tracking, scouting deer country, deer habits and habitat, hunting methods and techniques, as well as shooting from various hunting positions. During the 3-day program, students will be supervised by qualified Pope and Young Club members and veteran bowhunters, headed by the school's chief instructor, Walter Seville, a senior member of the P&Y Club and a district manager for Bear Archery Company.

Students will have the opportunity to hunt during the three school days. Persons who have not completed the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) "Hunter Education" program, will be certified during the initial phase of the program. Those attending the course will be house three days and two nights at Eldred Preserve's motel and meals will be served in the Preserve's famous restaurant.

Because the program demands personalized instruction, the school will be limited to the first 20 reservations. For further information, hunters should contact the school's registrar, M. Picone, at (201) 539-7038, or Mr. Seville at (201) 729-5721, or by writing to Catskill School of Bowhunting, 8 Korda Place, Cedar Grove, N.J. 07927. The 3-day school, including hunting, meals and accommodations, is $300 per hunter, but does not include resident or non-resident N.Y. State hunting licenses and archery stamps.

While at Eldred, students will have the opportunity to hunt white tailed deer (and bear) from a choice of elevated tree platforms or ground stands amid the virtually untouched hardwood stands that make up Eldred Preserve. They will also spend some of their free moments, if desired, fishing in the Preserve's stocked trout ponds.

ALOU PURCHASES LUPO

Alou Tackle President, Joel Ackerman, has announced that Alou has purchased the Lupo Lure Division of Seawolf Tackle. Alou will manufacture all of the Lupo products in its Farmingdale, N.Y. facility. All former Lupo products will be marketed as LUPO by Alou. These products include the Lupo Equalizer Bunker Spoon, Lupo Squid, Lupo Laser, Lupo Banana, Lupo Tube Jig, and Lupo Shrimp.

All inquiries regarding Alou or Lupo products should be sent to Alou Tackle Mfg. Corp., 170-3 Central Ave., Farmingdale, N.Y. 11735.

New Products

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Penn, America's largest designer and manufacturer of reels, has the 716Z ultra-light, open faced spinning reel.

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For further information on the 716Z ultra-light Spinfisher, or any of the Great American-made Penn Reels, write: Penn Reels, 3028 W. Hunting Park Ave., Dept. P., Philadelphia, PA 19132. Telephone: (215) 229-9415.

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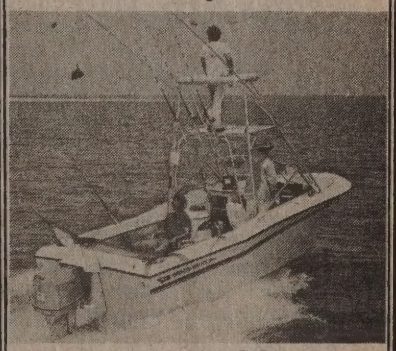

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TUNA HEARINGS GO WELL

by Al Ristori

Congressional hearings are often more frill than substance, and that's especially true of those held on Fridays. Most Congressmen are already home by then, and the ones who do show up are usually committed to one side or the other. Therefore, I didn't have any great hopes for the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee hearing scheduled for Friday, September 25 to discuss the bill recently introduced to eliminate the tuna exemption in the 200-Mile Limit law. However, I believe we did make some progress at these particular hearings.

The bill in question is H.R.4457, introduced by Rep. James Howard (D-NJ) and Rep. Christine Schneider (R-RI). It is a companion to the Senate bill S.1564, introduced by Senator Lowell Weicker (R-CT). Both bills simply eliminate the language which exempts tuna from the authority of the United States under the 200 mile fisheries jurisdiction. The West Coast high seas tuna industry insisted on that provision when the 200-Mile Limit law was passed, as it ensures State Department backing for their incursions into the fisheries jurisdictions of other countries. The result of this exemption has been a massive Japanese longline fishery in our waters which has defeated our efforts at rebuilding the depleted bluefin tuna population to previous levels and also resulted in the destruction of innumerable billfish, sharks, and other prohibited species which come under our jurisdiction. To add insult to injury, our Canadian friends also conduct a purse seine fishery on school tuna in our waters—though they permit no foreign tuna fishing in their waters.

The September 25 hearing was conducted by the Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and the Environment, chaired by Rep. John Breaux (D-LA). It opened on a sour note as Breaux, a defender of the status quo, stated that he wasn't really sure why we were bothering with this testimony. After all, the Subcommittee had gone over the same ground last year and come up with a compromise which Breaux seemed to think was both equitable and well-accepted by all sides. As it turned out, the testimony provided demonstrated that the two major provisions of that "compromise" (which wasn't embraced with open arms by this reporter or many others in the sport fishing community) had not been met. First of all, observer data indicates that the Japanese considerably overfished the 7000 giant tuna limit in the Gulf of Mexico which they had agreed to. Secondly, the 100% observer coverage agreed to by Congress has still not been fully implemented.

Though recent issues of the Southeast Observer News, put out by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), indicate that the Raven Corp. has a contract to provide the 100% observer coverage, this hearing brought out the fact that it was actually still only about 27%. Of course, that's a lot better than the 12% we had earlier in the year, but Rep. Gerry Studds (D-MA) wondered where the Japanese payments for observers were going. With this hearing coming right after the President's latest budget cutting address to the nation, Studds thought the Japanese money might be used by "you know who, to balance you know what!" Later, Rep. Ed Forsythe (R-NJ) noted his displeasure at the lack of promised coverage; but stated that the Japanese are paying only for observers actually on board.

The first panel consisted of representatives of the California high seas tuna fishery. They followed Breaux' line in wondering why these hearings were being held, and played down the need for conservation of the Atlantic bluefin. Since the West Coast fleet plundered this great resource in the 60s, it's been of too little importance for them to bother with. However, it is in their interest to allow the Japanese continued access in order that they, too, may have government backing for their otherwise illegal fishing in the waters of other countries. Tuna fishermen's union boss Augie Felando angered Rep. Bill Hughes (D-NJ) by implying that patriotism required Americans to back the high seas tuna fleets, and his predictions of doom and gloom inspired some more wit from Rep. Studds—who noted how prosperous the tuna industry representatives looked years after assuring Congress that the passage of the 200-Mile Limit law would spell doom for their fishery. Studds also remarked that their reputation as prophets was seriously in doubt, and that their present warnings are no more valid than those they issued almost a decade ago.

The second panel consisted of Chris Weld, Executive Director of the National Coalition for Marine Conservation (NCMC); Captain Lou Puskus, Barnegat Light, NJ, and Alan Guimond, President of Stonington Seafood. One of the main arguments being used by Breaux and others in defense of the present situation is that the Japanese, if kicked out of our zone, would be able to catch their tuna outside the zone—and then wouldn't be subject to our restrictions on the billfish by-catch. Weld cut through that obviously weak argument by noting that the Japanese wouldn't be putting up with the regulations we do impose on them if they could catch the tuna they want outside our 200 mile zone. He also refuted the outdated assumptions of the tuna industry biologists that our bluefin are truly oceanic. Actually, tagging results indicate only rare transatlantic movements. Our bluefin appear to stay in U.S. waters most of the year, and could be completely controlled with the cooperation of Canada, the Bahamas, and Mexico.

Alan Guimond represented the domestic mobile and fixed gear commercial fishermen who have been losing a great deal of gear to the Japanese longlines. Guimond stated that the voluntary agreements with the Japanese haven't worked, and that damage to domestic fishermen in this calendar year is in the area of $200,000 to $300,000 in gear loss alone. That doesn't include the loss of earnings while new gear is being procured.

Lou Puskus is a former charter skipper who now runs swordfish longliners and fishes for tilefish during the winter. He testified as to the reasons he was forced to go far offshore in the first place. In the early 1960s the big purse seiners arrived off the Jersey Coast. "At that time there were hundreds of schools and miles of bluefin tuna, sometimes as far as the eye could see. These super seiners were here year after year, making relentless sets of 30, 40, 50, and 100 ton catches at a time. As the schools began to dwindle there were very few and the San Diego tunamen left. The past six years I have yet to see one decent school of bluefin tuna off Barnegat Light, and I am keen at spotting them from a boat." Puskus then went on to note now the foreign ships were raping our bottom resources at the same time, leaving him with no tuna for his summer charters

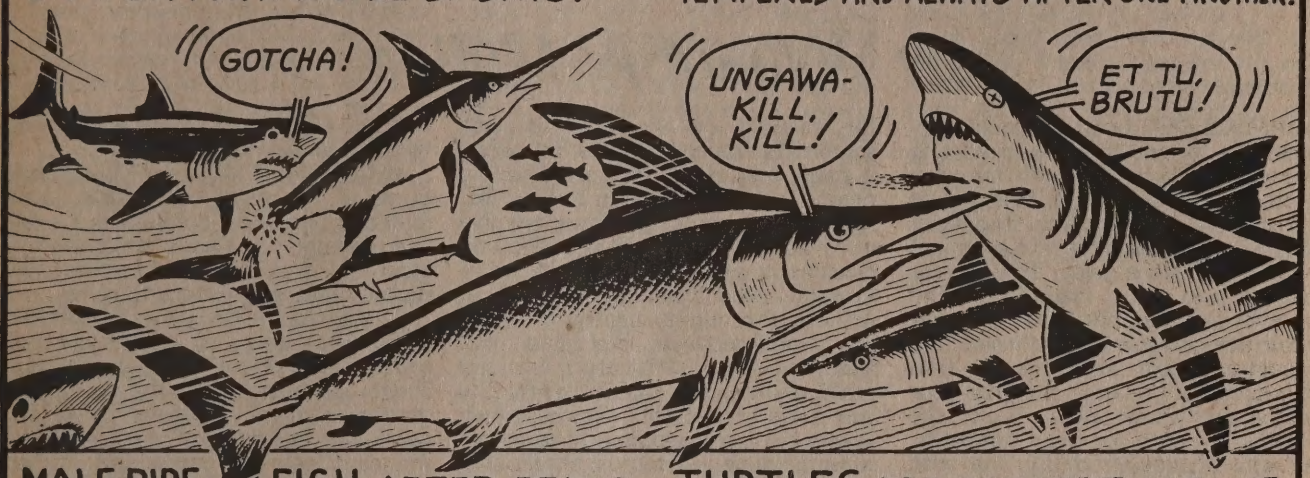
(Continued on page 37.)

FRED'S FISH FACTS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

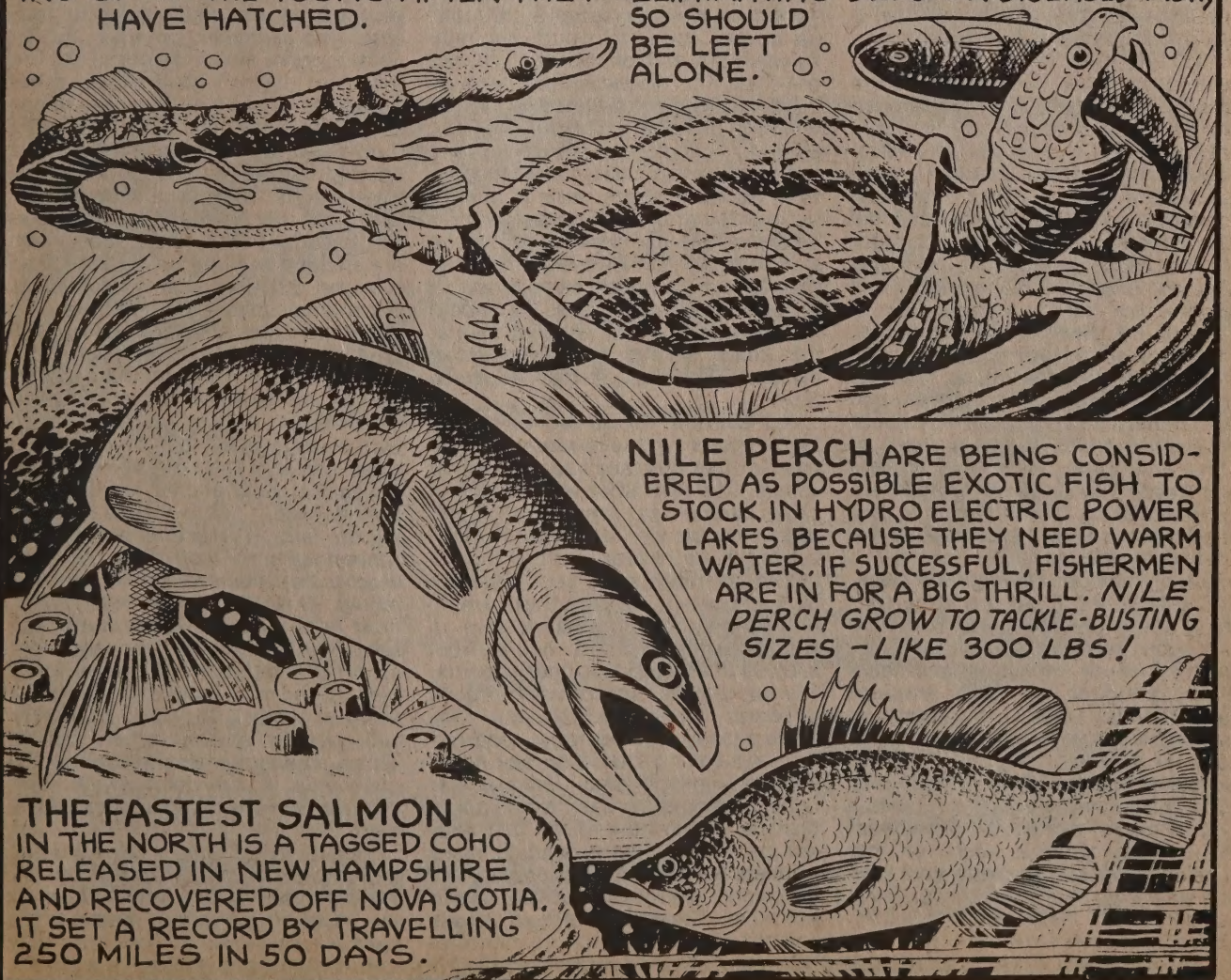
FIGHTING FISH: MAKO SHARKS TRY TO SNEAK UP ON BROADBILL SWORDFISH AND BITE THEIR TAILS OFF, RENDERING THEM MOTIONLESS. THEN THEY CAN FEED ON THEM FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS.

BROADBILL SWORDFISH WILL CHARGE A MAKO AND RUN ITS BILL CLEAR THROUGH THE SHARK. COMMERCIAL LONGLINERS SAY THAT SWORDS AND MAKOS ARE MEAN, BAD TEMPERED AND ALWAYS AFTER ONE ANOTHER!



MALE PIPE-FISH, AFTER BEING IMPREG-NATED BY THE FEMALE, CARRY THE EGGS FOR THREE WEEKS AND THEN PROVIDE ALL THE NUTUR-ING OF THE YOUNG AFTER THEY HAVE HATCHED.

TURTLES ARE CONSIDERED A MENACE TO GOOD FISHING AND ARE OFTEN KILLED FOR THIS REASON. STUDIES SHOW THAT TURTLES ARE HELPFUL IN ELIMINATING DEAD OR DISEASED FISH, SO SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE.



NILE PERCH ARE BEING CONSID-ERED AS POSSIBLE EXOTIC FISH TO STOCK IN HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER LAKES BECAUSE THEY NEED WARM WATER. IF SUCCESSFUL, FISHERMEN ARE IN FOR A BIG THRILL. *NILE PERCH GROW TO TACKLE-BUSTING SIZES - LIKE 300 LBS!*

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FISH TALK

OLD FRIENDS & NEW

by William A. Muller

BEFORE THE MAIL! I would very much like to take this opportunity to ask readers of this column for your ideas, comments, and criticisms. To do so now is especially important what with the start of a new year just a scant few issues away. This is your column and your magazine. The publisher and editors have no desire to ram content down your throats that you do not want, and thus the best gauge of what you want becomes your letters and phone calls. Thus, the request is made for your feedback, not with cautious humility, but with an aggressive commitment. There are times during the season when many of you are too busy fishing to write and perhaps we're too busy fishing to answer, but the members of the family must stay in touch. Drop me a line and who knows, you may win a rod or reel in one of our contests.

OLD FRIENDS FIRST. Many of you in the loyal family will recognize the name John V. Konior. John has been a free lance contributor to this magazine for a number of years. Recently he took the time to respond to a recent column about sharks. It seems that a few years ago John and a few buddies bumped into a tiger shark in Zachs Bay. John's letter was much too long to include intact in this column, but here's a paragraph to give you the flavor of his experience. "Surprise, surprise! I approached the fin from the starboard side. Ed was still up on the bow. As I closed with the fin there was no longer any doubt as to what it was. It was a shark all right, and a big one. I was curious why it didn't spook as we approached. For that matter, it didn't seem to care at all that we were there. I pulled the boat alongside and that moment it rolled on its side showing us a black, evil, mindless eye. At the same time the jaw was half-open and there were row upon row of formidable teeth. To this day we all swear that the shark was smiling at us. Ed's knuckles turned white—that's how hard he gripped the bow rail. That shark was eight to nine feet long and it was so close that we could have reached over the gunwale and touched it. It was a tiger shark without doubt. We wonder to this day what a shark of that species and size was doing way back in Zachs Bay."

HARD ON THE NERVES! Although it isn't likely that the occasional big shark visitor the back bay will be a real danger to anyone, the thought of all the little kids swimming around in Zachs Bay while a giant man-eater may be cruising nearby is a little hard on the nerves. Yet, remember you saw the shark on a rainy day when both boat traffic and beach crowds were almost non-existent. Had there been a lot of activity the shark probably would have wandered away. But I hear you! You're saying: "What about that one crazy animal that doesn't react the way it's supposed to?" I agree, which is why caution is and around saltwater is always wise. It isn't just sharks that should be of concern. In fact, perhaps they are way down the list. Tides, currents, waves, sudden storms, etc., are all reasons for respect when playing in the sea.

FISHING CAMPS? Rob Tinari of Yorktown Heights recently brought up a very good point. "I am only 13-years-old and of course, I cannot drive yet. For this reason and because I live in northern Westchester, I find it hard to go fishing on Long Island as often as I would like. However, my father takes me on the Klondike out of New Rochelle about once a month, but this is not enough. I asked him if he could take me more often and he said he couldn't. However, he did say that if I found a fishing camp he would be happy to send me there. So I would like to know if you or anybody else at LIF knows of any saltwater fishing camps." Rob has additional questions.

NO CAMPS. There are camps on Long Island and elsewhere, where you can fish but they are not fishing camps. I believe what you mean is a camp similar to the football and hockey camps we hear about. Unfortunately, saltwater fishing hasn't grown to that point yet. You will notice, for example, that there are no professional saltwater superstars in competition making a living from success in contests and tournaments. We can consider any number of good saltwater fishermen pros, but they make money from guiding, chartering, and selling fish. We may never see the independent fishing star either, because by the time it might become fashionable there just may not be enough fish around to make contests feasible. Although there are no camps, there are one-day clinics available. These are offered locally and are sponsored by tackle manufacturers and magazines like the LIF. We ran one this past April in cooperation with the Long Island State Parks and Recreation Commission.

SECOND QUESTION. "My second question is about sand eels and diamond jigs. Why do we add a tube to a diamond jig? I have never seen a sand eel that was red, white, or green?" More questions to come.

SEVERAL ASPECTS TO ANSWER. First, we do not always add the colored tube above the diamond jig. There are times when the jig works great all by itself. It depends upon the conditions that we have to fish with. If the sand eels are large and if the water clarity is a bit muddled, the unadorned diamond jig may be superior. Most often, the diamond jig and tube lure may be superior. Most often, the diamond jig and tube lure combination is used when the sand eels are on the small side. In that case, the diamond jig may act as nothing more than a weight to get the tube lure down. I have known some fishermen to use a large sinker under such conditions. The tube is usually attached about 18" above the jig and short thin tubes are usually preferred. The hook in the tube is bent so that when the rig is retrieved the tube spins. Now for the colors. Sand eels are one of a few interesting baits that produce different color impressions depending upon the depth of the water, the clarity of the water, the type of food that they have been eating, and the size of the sand eels as well as the density of the school. Out of the water, a sand eel looks brown with a white belly, but if you take a close look at a live sand eel, you will notice that each animal has tones of purple, red, pink, yellow, green, silver, etc. Different nutritional content of the food they eat will accentuate certain colors and diminish others. Same is true of the bottom. Over light sand in shallow water, the sand eels will usually appear light brown with reddish flanks and a white belly. Over mud (where they are not likely to linger), they will be darker with purple and/or green flanks. These changing circumstances explain why in the same place color preferences will change from day to day.

THIRD QUESTION. "My third and fourth questions both have to with the Hudson River. I do a lot of fishing in the Hudson, and a few weeks ago I read an article about how they may reopen the Hudson River to commercial fishing. Isn't it bad enough that

the commercial fishermen have destroyed the Chesapeake stock? Do you know who I could write to to prevent commercial fishing in the Hudson? Last, couldn't the power plant at Indian Point support winter fishing for bass the way the Northport LILCO plant does in Long Island Sound? Let's take the last first. It isn't likely because circumstances are very much different. In fact, one of the biggest problems with Indian Point is how to keep the small bass away from the entrainment screens. Water intake rates just aren't the same in the two places and neither are the activities and ages of the fish.

ABOUT COMMERCIAL FISHING. We congratulate you on your zeal. We get more and more letters from young fisherpeople who express a desire to be active to protect their fishing. That's good and we hope that you never lose that desire. Remember that these battles are long and hard because, in part, what may seem obvious to you isn't to someone else. Always approach these projects with patience, tolerance, and persistence and never lose faith that progress can be achieved. With that in mind, let's begin the journey. Although Chesapeake commercial fishermen have contributed to the decline of the bass there, let's be fair. Many factors have had an effect. Natural cycles are part of this, and the heavy pressure on the species up and down the coast is another; pollution has taken its toll, and members of our family have had a part. How many bass, Rob, have gone to market not from a net but from a hook? The Chesapeake commercial fishermen really impact on the species by making a given year class last **only** a short time. Let's take examples. I know one bass expert who is convinced that there are more fish around from the good year classes of 1958 and the 1960s than the best of them all: 1970. Why? Because pressure on the species in the Fifties and Sixties wasn't as heavy. By 1973 commercial fishermen in the bay are estimated to have harvested in excess of 90% of the 1970 year class. Thus, whereas that year class could have and should have lasted thirty years (to the bitter end), its impact is probably already less significant than the good year classes of the 1960s.

JUST A MATTER OF TIME! None of us likes to change. When we get comfortable in something we get secure and we may confuse comfort with correctness. Then when times change we resist and we fight to the bitter end to prevent the change. We become ruled by emotion instead of logic and that can be dangerous. Such is true of commercial fishermen today. The experts already know what the commercial man refuses to admit: the old days are over and he must adapt or perish. The inshore commercial harvester can survive if they become inshore commercial farmers instead. In addition, the commercial people, inshore and offshore, must respect and assist in the growing management effort. If they do not they are ultimately cutting their own throats. LIF has been accused of trying to design the demise of commercial fishing and yet nothing could be further from the truth. For more than ten years we have been trying to sit down with spokesmen from the commercial sector to talk about adaptation for the future. In all these years they have refused our help. They blindly want the old way regardless of cost to the environment, their families, their traditions, and themselves. Thus, we have been left with no choice but to protect our own interests in the face of total and blind allegiance to yesterday. You can help by writing for causes we sponsor and by making your views clear to local politicians.

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Tins For Daytime Blues

by D.W. Anthony

Although the striped bass stocks seem to be down quite a bit and late fall is generally not the best time to corral weakfish, there are always bluefish. Seems we have plenty of the toothy fellas around the last few years. There are the small fry of one to four pounds, the medium sized momma bears of five to nine pounds, and then there are the large, larger, and largest of bluefish starting at ten and going who knows where?!!

The die-hard surf fisherman likes to fish at night and it's a good habit to get into because in June, July, August, and often a good part of September the only real chance for decent fish is on the night tides. Yet, it may be a habit that can cost us in the fall when the water is cooler and everything from snappers to mullet are on the move. Since there just aren't enough bass around for the species to muster the kind of old-fashioned daytime assaults that we used to see, and because we have plenty of blues, daytiming for blues is often very productive. Now, lots of folks like to use poppers on the choppers and so do I, but with so many sand eels around it may be more productive to use tin. Tin? Why not tubes you ask? Sure, we can use tubes and they are great imitations of sand eels, but often in the fall, what with storms and higher seas, the blues may pass by a little bit too far off the beach to reach with high wind-resistant tubes. Tins are better for longer casts, but we can sneak a tube in here and there (more about that later).

More about the daytime. I simply have had a hard time believing my eyes the last few years. Time after time I have been witness to hot daytime action for blues only to witness the action die very dead with the onset of darkness. That's why it may not be too good an idea to stick to nighttime habits now. A person can understand the daytime preferences of the blues if indeed they are herding sand eels around, because sand eels have a way of disappearing when it gets dark. Yet, this time of year, there is supposed to be plenty of big baits like bunker moving along the beach.

Once we make up our minds to search for daytime feeding blues, we need to decide where we will fish and that, in turn, will dictate tackle. This time of year you can find blues in creeks, harbors, river mouths, inlets and the open ocean; but let's concentrate on the ocean for this discussion. We like to fish the west side of the inlets this time of year. We work the beach maybe up to a mile or so to the west of an inlet. We feel that bait coming out of the inlets on the falling tide will have a tendency to migrate to the west and south. There have been times when the east side beach has produced well and maybe we stick to the west sides out of habit and no real advantage, but we have had our success.

Buggies and surf fishermen gather on an overcast, fall day along the open surf to take migrating blues.

If we sight birds working close in then we get excited, but there are times when there are no birds, but plenty of blues. We also try to avoid the calm, surfless, bright days: if we insist on fishing under such conditions we'll switch over to eels and bunker. The best days seem to be those overcast days, maybe with a little rain, and perhaps a northeast wind or a northwest following on the heels of a southerly wind. The surf is up, the tide moves well, the bait is moving, and the fish come in to feed.

We have found that the sand eels demand we use long and thin tins for a more accurate physical imitation. These tins, in sizes from two to four ounces, cast well and slither through the water like sand eels. The Hopkins No-Equal, the long thin Pasquale tins, and J-5, J-6, J-7 tins work well. Although some fishermen like the treble hooks and the bucktails or feathers that some tins come with, we prefer to replace treble hooks with 6/0 or 7/0 siwash hooks and to remove the hair and feathers. We figure that without the hair and feathers the tins look more like sand eels to the fish, but who knows what a fish thinks. There are some fish taken on the tins with trebles and hair, but our hook-up rate seems to be higher without those items.

There is no doubt that blues like fast moving bait and yet we have found that a tin worked slowly near the bottom gets more attention than a fast retrieve. Once again one can only guess, but a lot of guys on the beach believe that the blues cruise near the bottom looking for sand eels that may emerge from time to time from the sand. Therefore, a tin that slithers along the bottom better imitates that situation than a tin moving higher in the water column. Because sand eels often dart out of the sand as they swim off, we give the rod a little twitch from time to time. When you do that the tin will jump slightly up and ahead like a darting sand eel's and often this techniques works when a straight retrieve will not. However, do not over-exaggerate the twitch; just a little flick of the wrist does the job.

Sometimes it is important to change tins; working up and down in size. The sand eels may be small or they

may be large and it may be possible to "match the hatch" more accurately with tins of different sizes. Remember that smaller tins will not sink as fast while the largest tins will sink quickly. Therefore, you'll likely have to adjust your speed of retrieve to keep the tin near the bottom. Your lure may bump bottom quite a bit and even drag through the little sand bars and rises. This will dull your hooks quickly and it may be advisable to carry a small file or stone to touch up the points of the hooks from time to time.

We said that choice of location and lure will dictate tackle and therefore, if you plan to fish the open surf and cast tins you'll need that big stick. It isn't necessary to grab the biggest stick you can find, but rods of eleven to thirteen feet seem to be in order. Those with mushy thin tips aren't the best for this type of fishing either. Instead, most regulars prefer the slow tapering rods with plenty of power to lean into a four ounce tin. A large reel filled with 15 or even 20 lb. test line is also advisable. If you use the 15 lb. test mono, we suggest that you use a shock leader of 20 or 25 lb. test secured to the main line with a blood knot. The heavier line will tolerate the repeated heavy casting with large lures. We have known some fishermen to use 10 lb. test with a 20 lb. shocker in order to get that extra distance on the cast and at times, the extra yards make the difference between reaching the fish or going fishless. If you plan to fish from a buggy it is both advisable and convenient to bring along several different outfits with extra spools with line of different strength. In this way you're ready for whatever Mother Nature and the bluefish will deal to you.

Earlier in the article I mentioned that it might be possible to sneak a tube in here and there and indeed we can. One of the hottest tricks in the last few years has been to use a short shank 5/0, 6/0, or 7/0 bait hook and slip tubes up over them. Thus is born the tin/tube? For whatever reason, there are times when this combo catches better than a plain tin. All colors work at one time or another, but favorites have been green and amber, with red following close behind. You can buy the pre-cut tubing or you can buy it in bulk and cut your own. If you cut your own, make the tubes about five or six inches long and taper one end to a point. Bend the hook a little so that when you slip the tube over it the tube will be bent a bit. It is the bend in the tube that gives the lure a spiraling action when you retrieve it. Use a 100 lb. test black swivel to connect your hook to the tin so that the tube can spin freely.

That isn't the whole story, needless to say, but it is a meaty introduction to one of my favorite ways to chase blues in the fall. There's more to this fishing than catching fish, too. I like the atmosphere: diving birds, bent rods, and the crash of the surf.

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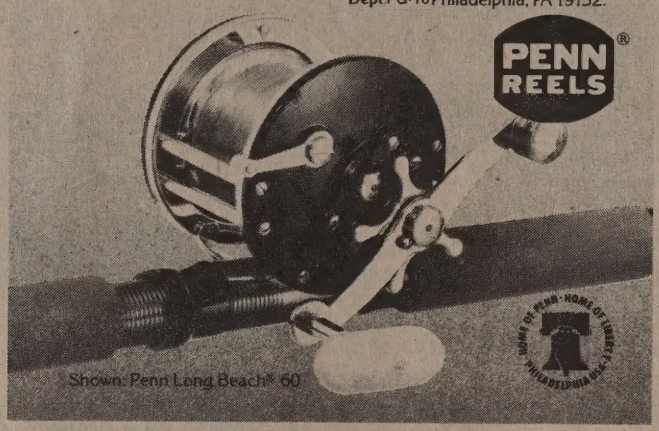

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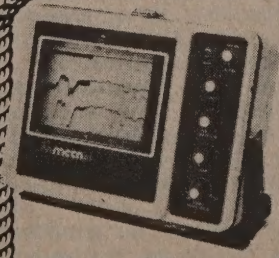

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FALL BLACKFISH SECRETS

by Matt Ahern

Artie Leidecker walked back from the bow of the Echo and continued on to the stern. Here he found Al Dunn and I leaning over the rail trying desperately to catch blackfish from the crumbling bones of the offshore Coal Wreck. Up until then we hadn't done too well. In fact, we didn't have one fish. Artie picked up his tackle and re-baited with a fresh piece of green crab. "I just put her on the inside," he told us. "If we're lucky, we should swing over the southwest piece. Let's see what happens."

Which meant only that Artie had shifted the anchor cable to the port bow post, thereby hoping to change the Echo's position without the necessity of first pulling the hook and re-anchoring. He expected the tidal currents to swing the Echo over the southwest corner of the wreck. They did exactly that. And we found the fish.

This happy turn of events didn't mean much to me, though, because I had volunteered to help Al Dunn catch his first blackfish. And as expected, Al was having a tough time of it. He was doing what every first-time blackfisherman does: he was attempting to set the hook at each bite.

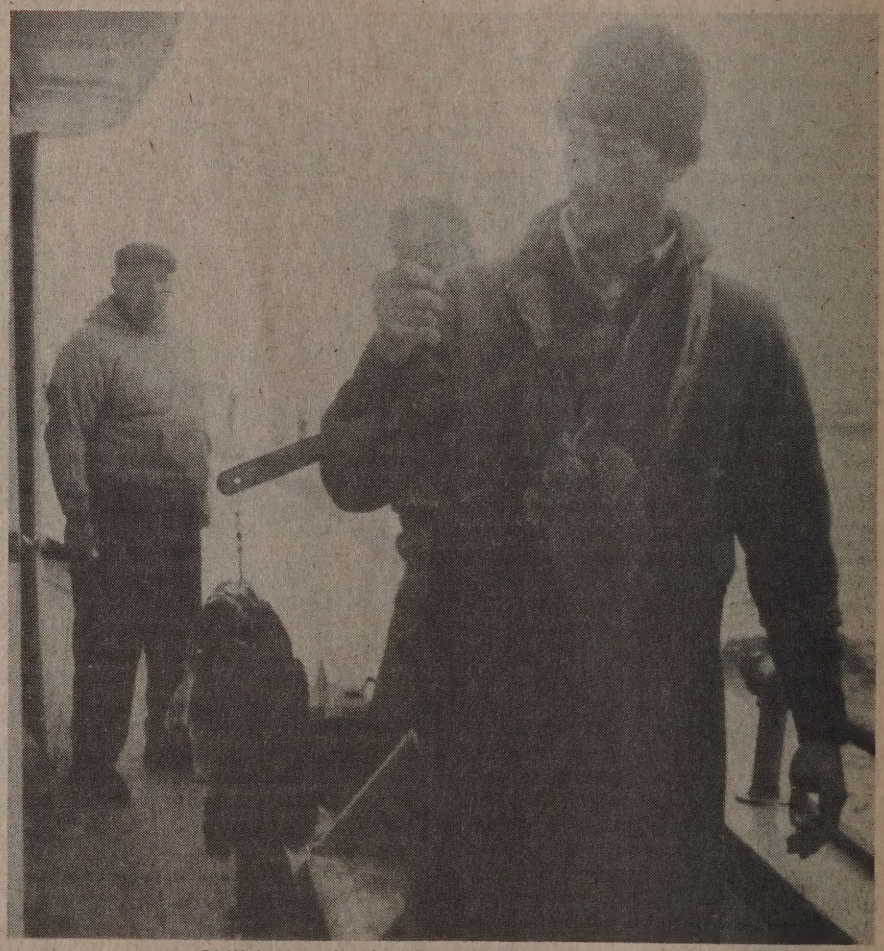
"No, no, no! Dammit, Al, you're not porgy fishing! Anyway, you're wasting your time. Those are bergall bites."

"How can you tell the difference?" he asked.

How? A simple question which, when blackfishing, becomes the famous $64 question. How could I explain that it actually takes a bit of experience to distinguish between the rapid-fire bite of a bergall and the wary, inquisitive nip of a blackfish. I could try doing so until the proverbial cows came home and yet, perhaps, Al would still remain in the dark.

It had always been thus—at least for me. I suppose there are fishermen who can pick up a rod for the first time and catch blackfish with no effort on their part. There can't be too many of them, though. In fact, in all my half-century (and more) of blackfishing, I've known but two. One was a kid I fished with in the long-ago, and the other a forty-year-old first-timer who asked me to take him fishing one November day. They had not one bit of trouble.

But as for me—ha! I guess I was pretty dumb. I did catch on after a while, but I'm sure it took me longer than the average guy. That desired "touch" eluded me for a long time. No matter what master fishermen of my acquaintance told me about the wily blackfish, I still couldn't get it through my thick head. Anyone else but those kindly fellows would have given me up as a hopeless case.



Skill is required to catch blackfish like these.

Oh, sure...I caught blackfish, all right. But those I caught were seldom over two pounds. And when I did manage to catch a three pounder, it was cause for much rejoicing on my part. And bragging. Why those kind and very patient master fishermen didn't drop me then and there, I don't know. For what must my bragging three pounder have looked like against their eight and ten pounders. Instead they patted me on the back and said that indeed it was a grand fish, but if I did so and so, perhaps the next one would be larger.

And as I stood beside Al Dunn that day, I remembered all this. I was sorry for Al, sorry that I lacked the patience of those long-ago master fishermen of my youth. I was certainly a poor friend and worse teacher. But Al wanted to catch blackfish so bad, he overlooked my bursts of temperament.

"But how do you tell the difference between a blackfish bite and a bergall bite?" he again asked.

And we were back to square one.

I glanced at Artie for encouragement, but all he did was shrug his shoulders—as if to say "It's your deal, hot-shot."

"Look, Al," I said, "reel in and let's take a breather. I think the best way to explain is for me to tell you what I've been told about blackfish by some of the best fishermen who ever walked the deck of a party boat."

Al reeled in dutifully, and Artie said: "Oh, brother!" under his

breath.

I went into my spiel. "First of all," I said, "forget what you've learned about other fish. It doesn't apply when blackfishing. None of us sinker bouncers has ever fished for such a wily character as this one. You can say what you will about cod and fluke, but they're duck soup compared to blackfish. Any fisherman who can consistently catch blackfish is a fisherman par excellence.

"You already know about bergalls," I continued, "but let me say this. If there are no bergalls in your blackfishing area, there are no blackfish. They live together. Unless you are fishing offshore, as we are now, most bergalls are small, but what they lack in size, they make up by being a complete pain in the neck with their bait-stealing. So keep that in mind whenever you use soft baits such as worms and clams.

"Green crab and China-back fiddlers make the best bait, especially in the fall of the year; and they also help keep bergalls at bay. Therefore, always bring plenty of bait—and because of the obstructions blackfish live around, plenty of hooks and sinkers too.

"A bait we used in the long ago to solve the bergall problem was conch. It's tough enough to bend the teeth of most bergalls, but it won't faze a blackfish. If you pry it from its shell and flatten it with a mallet to resemble a small pancake, and then trim off the black skin and use inch-and-a-half slices, you'll find blackfish love it. ...I'm not boring you with all this, am I, Al? You look right now as if you'd like to be somewhere else.

"Good enough—let's get on with it.

"As I mentioned before, the blackfish is smart and it is tricky. Nature has equipped its small, thick-lipped mouth with two sets of teeth. The front ones are used for nipping barnacles and mussels from rocks and wrecks. The back set are known as crushers. These are used for grinding the hard shell of crabs, mussels, clams, small lobsters, and anything else with a shell around it. And Al, when you fully understand that fact you will know the secret of successful blackfishing.

"When a blackfish approaches your bait, it will do one of two things: either immediately become suspicious and swim away because you forgot to let the bait lie perfectly still, or it will nip at it with those front teeth. If that blackfish is convinced all is well, the bait will be passed back to those crushers. When that happens you will definitely know your fish has taken the hook. Always wait for that good, solid tug. That's the time to strike—not before. If all you feel are light picks, that's a sign bergalls are working you over. Don't let them throw you. You must learn patience if you want blackfish.

"Many old-timers used to tell me that the time to strike a blackfish is before he bites. Sounds weird, I know, but this was just their way of acknowledging the speed this fish possesses. If you try to set the hook before the bait is passed back to those crushers, that fish will spit it out in a flash; which means a missed fish. If you're lucky, maybe you'll hook that fish in the lips, but don't count on it.

"As blackfishermen, we must know the precise instant in which to strike. And when you do strike, be alert. Keep your rod high for a dozen or so turns of the reel handle, for even the downward surge of a small black is surprisingly powerful. This is why a stout rod is needed—and a good reel with a star drag. You've got to keep that fish away from obstructions—especially when wreck fishing. Once you've got your fish in the clear, that fish is yours—if you take your time. If it is a big fish, you'll have your hands full.

"So, those are the important things I've learned about the art of blackfishing, Al. Ready to give it a try?"

Al re-baited with a fresh piece of green crab, lowered it to the bottom and waited. It didn't take long—once he stopped playing with the bergalls. I watched the rod tip and I saw it go down with a sudden jerk. "Now, Al, now! Hit him!" And he did. The rod bowed as Al struggled to keep it high. "That's it. Keep it high. You've got a nice black. Don't let him get back into the wreckage."

Al was a good pupil. Once he got the fish clear, he nursed it along, giving line when he had to, and taking it back when the fish swam with him. In a minute or so, the fish lay on the surface and Artie slipped a net under it. A good five pounds.

Al was elated. "How about that? My first decent blackfish."

"Fine," I replied. "Now go down and get another."

Which he did. We finished the day with over a dozen big blackfish. The largest was a seven pounder, which Artie caught. Not to take anything away from Artie, but I did wish Al had caught it.

Oh, well...you can't have everything.

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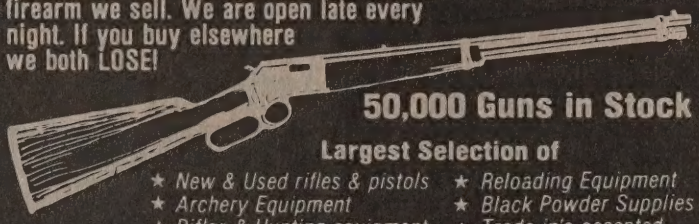
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FISH COOKERY CHECKLIST

by Art Michaels

Are you a skilled fisherman but a novice cook? You may know a lot about how and where to catch fish, but it's a shame if you louse up cooking your catch in the kitchen. Here is a ten-point checklist you can use to bone up on your fish cookery know-how.

1. Fresh fish, from the creel or from the market, have clear, shiny eyes. Avoid fish with fogged or gray eyes. In addition, test the freshness of a fish by smelling it. A fresh saltwater fish, for instance, has a pleasant, mild, oceany smell. When you close your eyes and sniff, if you imagine the sun setting peacefully over a clean smelling ocean, your fish is fresh. If the fish odor reminds you of nasty other things, move on.

2. Your oven-cooked fish is "done" when the fish flesh reaches 150°F. Most ovens have temperature ranges that are more useful for firing pottery than for cooking fish. Higher heat dries up the fish juices and causes vitamins and minerals to go up in smoke, too. Always keep a watchful eye on the meal during over cooking. For most fish recipes, to test for doneness, separate the flesh lightly with a fork. A properly cooked fish is white, juicy, flaky, and tender; an overdone one is dry, rubbery, and tough.

3. Store fresh fish in your refrigerator unfrozen no more than two days. Steaks, gutted fish, and fillets will dry out quickly—in a matter of hours—if you store them in the refrigerator uncovered and everything else in your refrigerator will smell fishy. Drain water and fish juices before wrapping your catch for refrigerator storage, because the water and juices get stale and the fish will absorb this wetness. Wrap all your large fish in foil or waxed paper, and store smaller whole fish and fillets in closed bowls or plastic food wrap.

4. Thaw frozen fish in its original wrapping in the refrigerator. Never thaw frozen fish at room temperature right from the freezer. It just doesn't taste as good as fish thawed in the refrigerator, no matter what species it is or how you cook it. Cooking frozen fish right from the freezer causes the fish to cook unevenly. The outer layer will be well done, perhaps burned, while the inside of a thick fillet or steak is still wet, cold, and mushy. Thaw small whole fish and thin fillets in the refrigerator about twelve hours.

Cooking your catch correctly is the perfect complement to your fishing skill.

Thaw a lot of fish or thick fillets and steaks for about 24 hours in the refrigerator.

5. Boiling fish cooks out the nutritive elements, so don't boil your catch, unless you're using it as part of a soup or chowder. Prolonged wet heat soaks the vitamins and minerals out of the fish faster than dry heat such as that of broiling or baking.

6. Steaming or poaching your catch are close to boiling, but far better. When you steam fish, consume both the fish and the steamed liquid. When you poach fish, bring the water to just below the boiling point, and allow ten minutes cooking time for each inch of thickness of your fish. Wrap the fish in cheesecloth and poach it this way in a wine or seasoned broth.

7. Baking. Always preheat your oven for about ten minutes to the desired temperature, and during cooking try not to open the oven too often; each time you open it, much heat escapes, the temperature drops, and your cooking time needs to be adjusted. Opening a preheated oven for only about two seconds causes the temperature to drop about 25°.

8. Broiling. Preheat the oven ten minutes. Keep your catch no closer than about two inches from the heat source, but keep split fish, small whole fish, small panfish fillets, or pieces of fish farther from the heat source—about three to six inches. Don't turn split fish and thin, small pieces. Turn whole fish, thick steaks, and fillets only once. Recipes for broiled fish that call for lots of basting are sure-fire pleasers for hungry family and friends.

9. Deep frying. Use enough oil in your skillet, kettle, or pot to cover the fish completely, and heat the oil to 375° before cooking anything. Drain each fish portion on absorbent paper towels, and let the oil get back up to 375° before cooking another batch.

10. Pan frying. This is an excellent way to cook small whole fish and thin fillets. Heat oil, butter, or bacon fat in a heavy skillet until it sizzles, just short of smoking. Smoking oil is thick and can get out of hand quickly; every smoke detector in your house will scream until you air out your house if this happens. Pan-fried fish are done when the batter crust is crisp and the fish on the inside is white, flaky, and tender.

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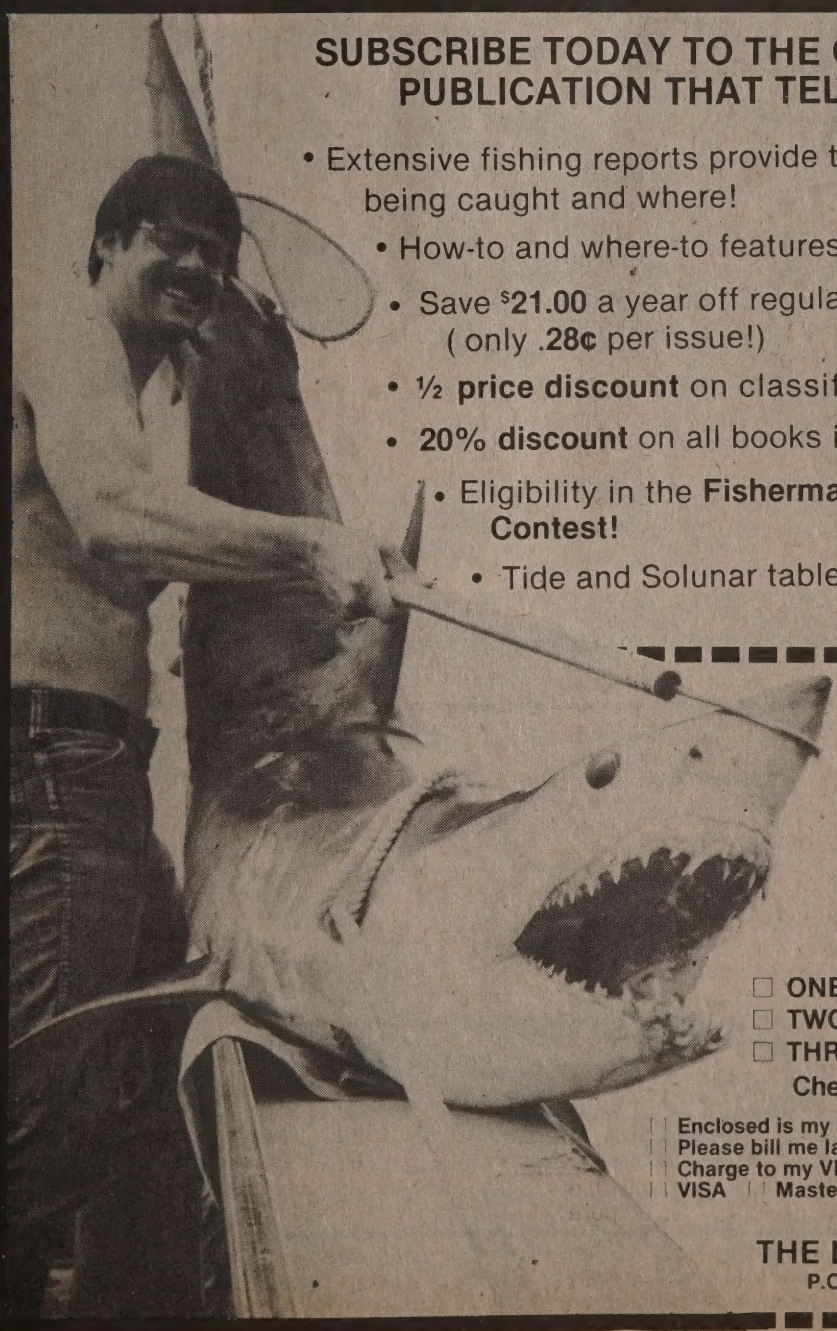

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THREE WAY EELING

by Tim Coleman

Looking for some bass this fall? In the next month or so many fish over 30 lbs. will fall. A goodly number of them will go to boats using live bait during the day or eels at night.

On the latter, if you have an eye on some spots in 20' to 50' of water, you might try three-waying. It's nothing new. Anglers fishing the series of rips off New London, Ct. called The Race, have used the method for years. The tons of big fish caught there are a testimonial to its effectiveness.

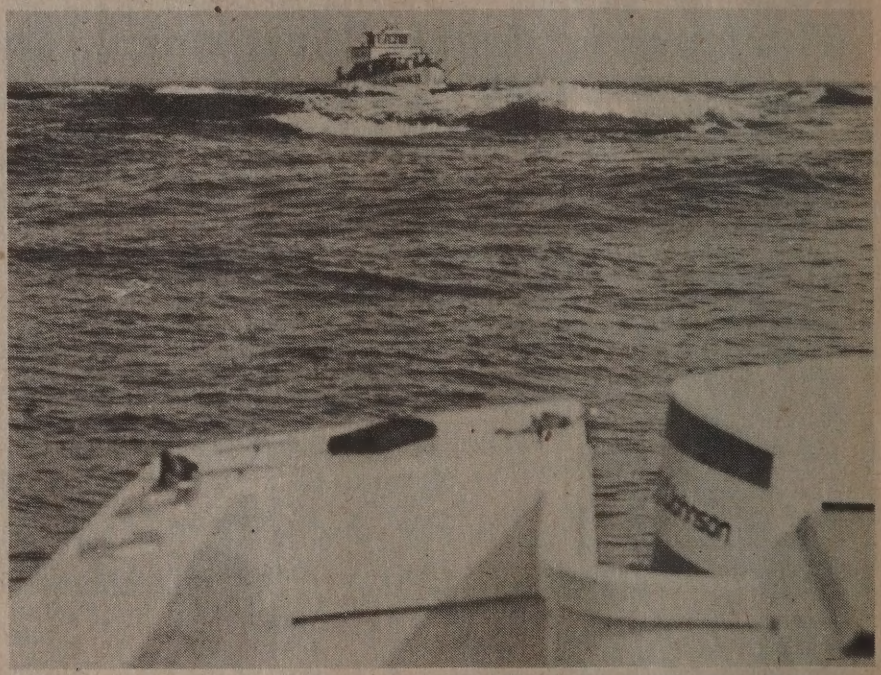
The three-way rig gets its name from use of a three-way swivel as the centerpiece. The rig is tied up around it. When it's finished, it looks to some like a fluke rig only it's intended for bass in deeper water on a running tide.

The rig is simple to construct. Start with a 1/0 size three-way swivel. On one eye tie a 4' to 5' piece of 60-80 lb. test mono. On the end of this tie a 9/0 Claw style hook. On one other eye of the swivel tie a 24'' to 30'' piece of mono. Here there are two schools of thought. Some use line lighter than that being used on the reel. The idea is the light line will break before the main line when you get hung up. This way you lose only part of a rig. Others just rig the sinker on 60 or 80 lb. They feel the heavier line lets them break away sinkers they might otherwise lose. If the sinker doesn't come away, they just break off and tie on another rig. If you are three-waying on some broken bottom plan on losing rigs. It's part of the game.

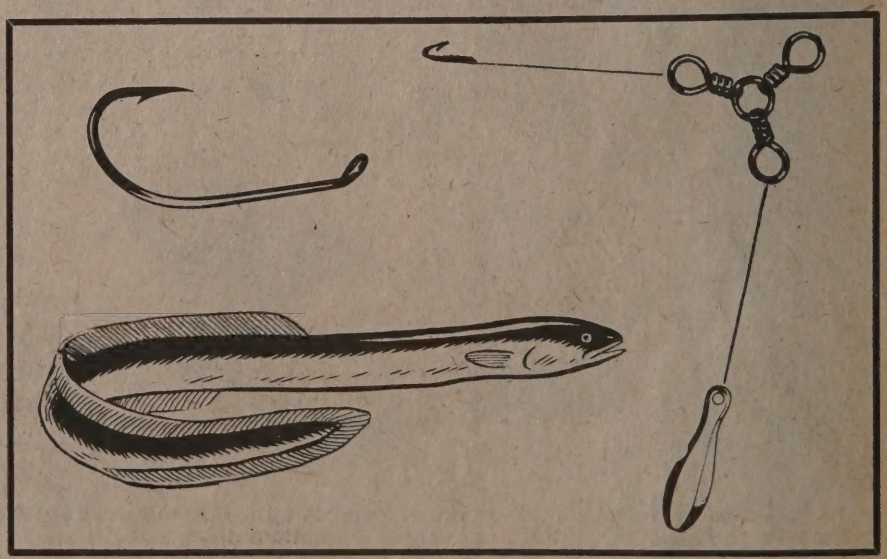
Some readers might question the length from swivel to sinker. Thirty inches sound a bit long. The answer to that was given by a Sag Harbor sharpie who regularly fishes Plum Gut at the eastern tip of the North Fork. He explained that the long sinker lead helps keep the eel up off the bottom a bit. As such, it's more in the line of sight of a bass holding out of the current behind a rock. Remember, a bass' eyes are geared more towards looking up than down. The fish is likely to see something going over her head close by. Also, with the eel riding a bit higher there's less chance the hook will get caught in low lying rocks.

Generally heavier tackle is used for three-waying. In The Race, sinkers up to 20 oz. are necessary to stay down on strong tides. In other areas, 2 to 4 oz. might be fine, say, during the end of a tide. A good starter outfit would be a high speed 3/0 or 4/0 reel, rod somewhere from 30 to 50 lb. class trolling blank and 40 to 50 lb. mono. In time you might want to go lighter. This past August, I had some good sport with 30 lb. fish on a Shimano graphite musky rod rated for 20 to 40 lb. line and lure or sinker weights of 4-8 oz. You also in time might consider dacron line, especially if you are in deeper water. Fifty pound dacron is much more popular than mono in The Race where bass are consistently hooked in water deeper than 50 feet.

Best results with three-waying are usually made when the eel is down close to the bottom. Some anglers favor the sinker banging the bottom.



The three-way rig has long been used in the series of tide rips off New London, Ct., called the Race. ''Three-waying'' has become the favorite method of bass hounds from Plum Gut to Block Island's North Rip.

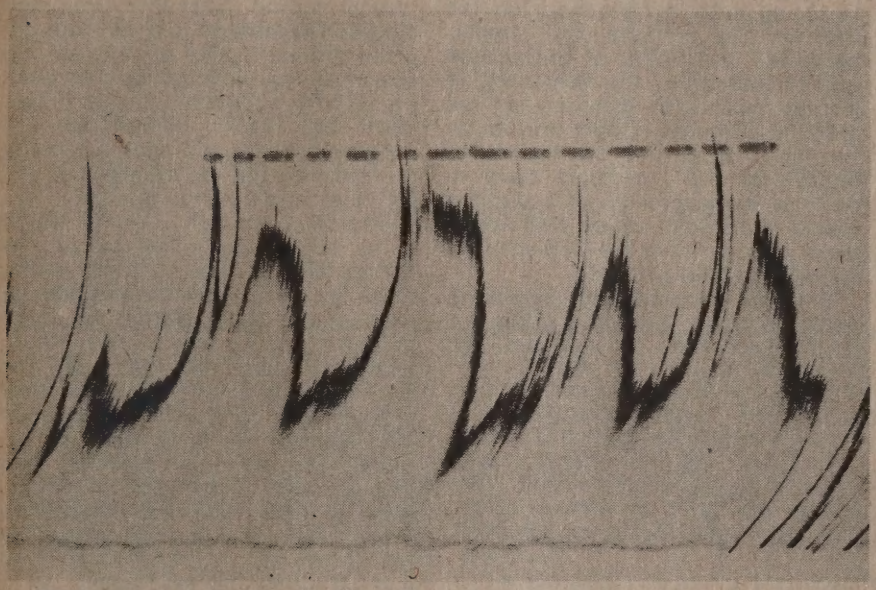


Three-way rig is made up around a three-way swivel. Hook size is a 9/0 Claw style; sinker weight can be anywhere from 2 to 20 oz. Length of leader from swivel eye to hook is usually 4' to 5'; from eye to sinker is usually 24'' to 30''.

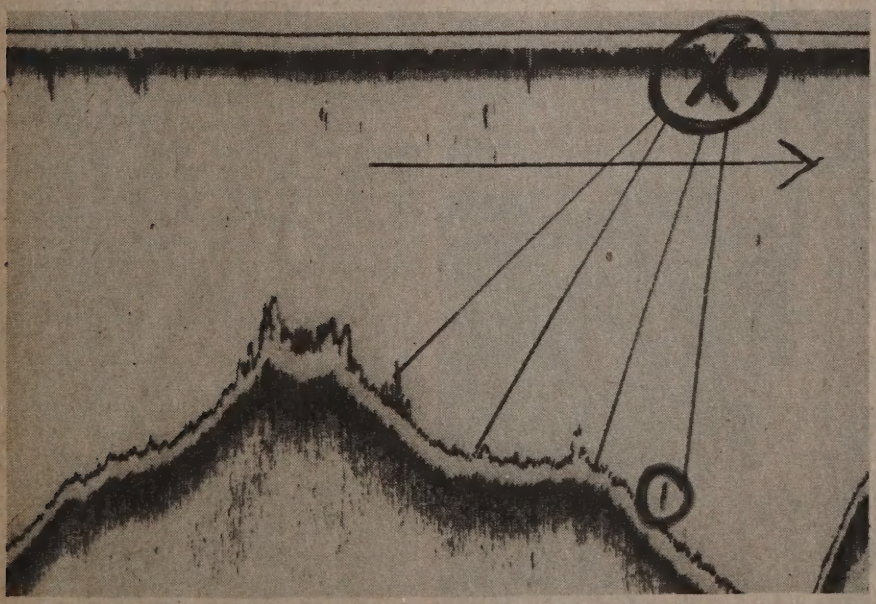
Others drop the rig down then crank in a few turns. Another case has fish that hold at mid-depths. One such place where this happens is the North Rip of Block Island. Here you might drop the rig down, put the reel in gear, then just drift along without letting out more line in an effort to stay near bottom.

One accepted method of hooking an eel is through both lips, starting underneath, then bringing the point out at the top of the head. You'll need a rag to purchase a hold on the slippery bait. Some regulars wrap the eel in the rag, then whack it across the gunwale a couple times. This slows the eel down for hooking and also prevents him tangling up the line. It doesn't in any way reduce its effectiveness.

A lot of three-way fishing is done in rips. These could be situated off a point of land on the ocean side of an island; perhaps there's a high spot in the bottom a little way offshore or perhaps it's a rip at the mouth of a river. One usually runs uptide, drops the rig down to bottom, then allows the tide to push your boat back into the rip. In some cases fish hold uptide, while in other cases they will be behind. On a lot of nights you might find a pocket of fish holding in one small section. This brings up a couple points. Number one, you might have to thoroughly fish the whole rip before deciding fish are not present. Just drifting over a couple spots in 500' of rip is not advisable unless you know for sure fish only hold in a few set spots. There's not near as many fish as 5 to 10 years ago.



Staying on a small section of reef is important for success in three-waying. The dotted line is going across a high point on four successive drifts. The fish were down behind the point. In three of four passes fish were hooked.



As your boat drifts behind the rip it's sometimes advisable to fish down the hill. You do this by letting out line as the bottom drops away. Here the X in the circle represents a boat. The arrow is current direction. The four lines are dropbacks each time the bottom dropped down a bit more. Hopefully somewhere in the deeper water will be some fish holding out of the force of the tide.

Once located, you have to make another pass over the same small spot. That's easier said than done in the dark. If you found fish on the deeper edges of the rip, you can locate them by height of the rip itself. If fish were in the center, height again can help. Besides height you might get back to your first spot by putting a buoy in line with a shore light, then running uptide from that. If you are close enough to a can you might judge a range merely on position and distance from the navigational aid.

While shore ranges can help greatly you won't really know for sure unless you have a chart machine. By drifting with it running you have a permanent record of the spot of your first found fish. If your next drift doesn't produce about the same bottom contour, keep looking.

Wind also plays a part, especially if you are out in a small, lightweight boat. If a breeze is quartering the tide, this might have to be taken into account in where to start another drift. As the tide eases, wind might become more of a factor in your movement. You might have to constantly re-arrange your drift pattern to take that into consideration. The opposite is true as a tide gathers strength, taking control of your craft from the wind.

If fish are holding behind a rip line, you might have to let out more line as the water gets deeper. You feel right away if the sinker has been in contact with bottom. Having a chart machine running will also let you know such is happening. Keep dropping back the rig. This will "walk" the eel down the hill perhaps to a 50 lb. fish holding in a pocket out of the main flow of the tide. The ability to immediately follow the bottom contour is one of the main attributes of three-waying.

Last point on rip fishing is tide. You might be in the right church but services might not start until the last couple of hours. Big, lazy bass have a habit of hitting on the slacker stages of tide. It's easier for them to feed. If you fished a known spot unproductively during the middle of the tide, it might be wise to make a couple passes later on.

The three-way technique is effectively practiced by striped bass sharpies such as world record holders Bob Rochetta and Dennis Kelly in Plum Gut, the Sluiceway, at Montauk and in the rips surrounding Block Island. Enterprising boatmen on Long Island's south shore may want to experiment with the rig in places like Fire Island, Jones, or Moriches Inlets, while north shore anglers might check out the adaptability of Eaton's Neck for this approach. Any place where deep water or swift tides harbor stripers is a possible target for live eels on a three-way rig.

OCTOBER ALE

by Andy Regina

There's something about fishing in the fall that makes it more exciting than the rest of the season. It could be the crisp, cold air, with its bracing tang of vitality, that sets our adrenalin flowing, or the anticipation of bountiful saltwater harvests, I don't know. I only know that waterfowl rafting-up on the Sound or flocks on the wing create vivid impressions. The symmetrical, V-formation of airborne geese or the compact, low-flying mass of ducks sadly reminds us that our fishing season is flying away also.

Line squalls with cold, sleet-like rains add to our despondency, and a stiff nor'easter can really make you wonder why you ever went fishing in the first place. Multi-colored leaves, carried out on receding tides, pose puzzling questions: Red Leaf, have the bass started feeding yet; yellow leaf, are bluefish on the prowl? Yet, with the season rapidly ending and game fish soon departing, one thing relieves our sadness and makes us happy that it's autumn again, and that thing is those battling brawlers of Long Island Sound: the blackfish.

Tautoga onitis has many aliases, such as whitechin down south and tautog up north, but it is the same fish that we New Yorkers call, simply, blackfish. A member of the wrasse family Labridae, the blackfish is kissing cousin to the bergall, and has over four hundred related species on the family tree. The one distinctive feature all clan members have in common is a set of teeth located at the rear of the throat, called pharyngeal teeth, used to crush the hard shells of most of their favorite food.

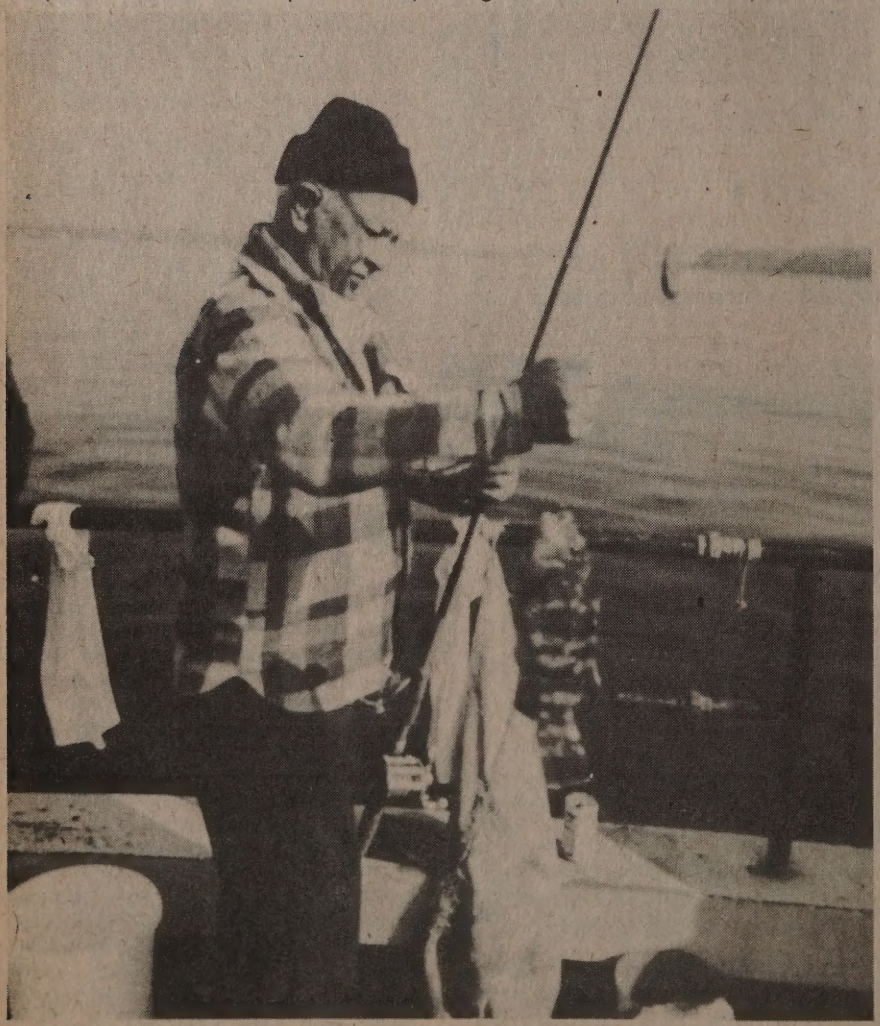
Blackfish diets are quite extensive, and high on their list of goodies is a large assortment of mollusks and crustaceans. The most highly-prized delicacy is lobster, and we can often predict forthcoming seasons by the amount of blackfish caught in commercial lobster pots prior to their actual appearance on the fishing grounds. Almost completely unknown to most fishermen is the blackfish's love of shrimp. This love prompted blackfish to respond to chum slicks of grass shrimp that we used to set out specifically for weakfish, and we were pleasantly surprised many times when big blacks belted our unweighed hooks at mid-depths, thereby contradicting age-old beliefs that this fish is strictly a bottom feeder.

Basically though, you're much better off fishing smack-dab on the bottom because that's actually where these fish do the bulk of their feeding most of the time. Partial to rough bottom structure like wrecks, rocks, and reefs, these fish feed upon the barnacles and the mussels that encrust such obstructions. Equipped with squirrel-like buck teeth set in tough, rubbery lips, blackfish are ideally suited to prying tough underwater dinners loose, and have tough skins, covered with tiny, armor-like scales that defy the razor-sharp coral and barnacles they feed upon.

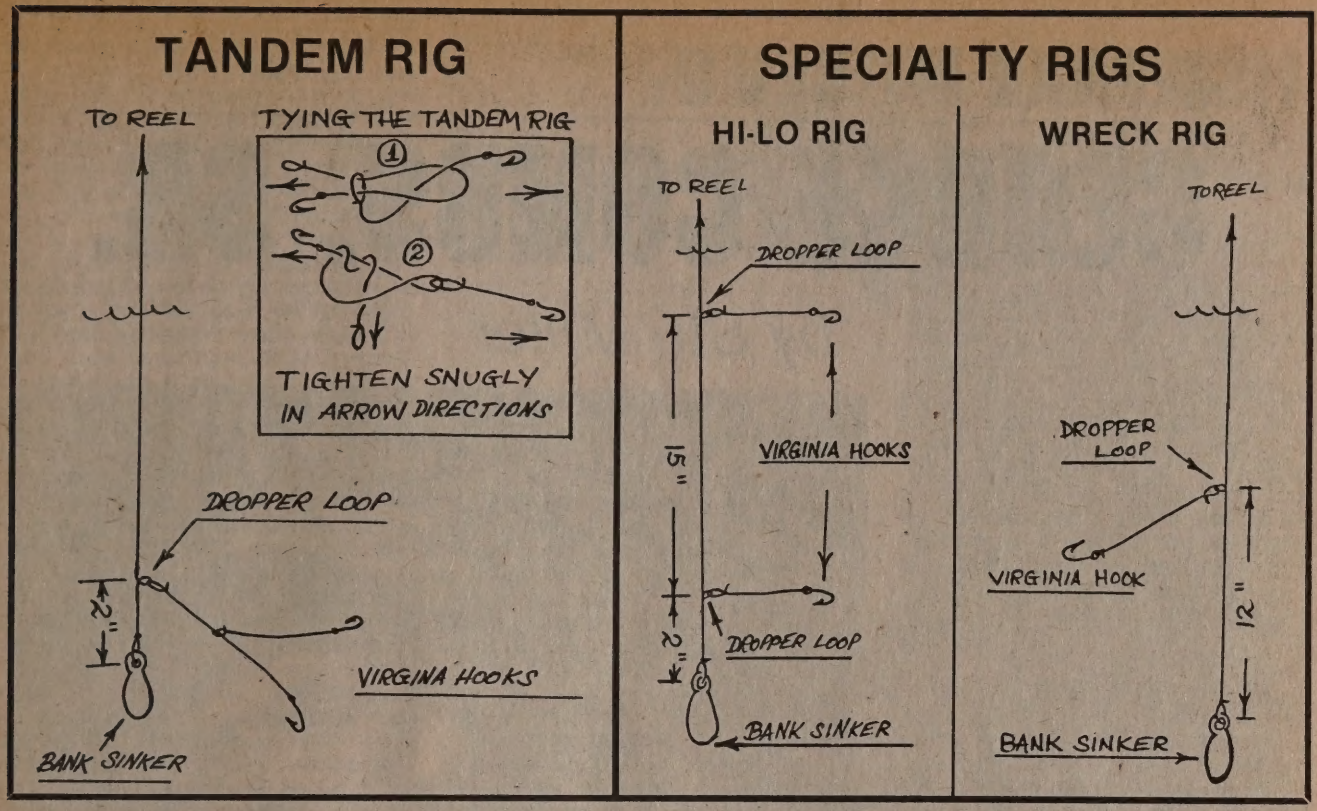
Favored mollusks are clams of all types, scallops, oysters, and mussels; crustacean preference is also extensive, and includes the lobster and shrimp mentioned above as well as crabs of all types. Green crabs, fiddler crabs, blueclaws, calicos, and hermit crabs are all top choice, as far as blackfish are concerned. Further included in this glutton's diet are seaworms of all types and most univalves, as well as small baitfish. As you can see, you have quite a varied assortment of baits from which to choose, any one of which could be highly productive at any given time.

Highly territorial, blackfish will very often crowd over one particular piece of bottom structure while the remainder of that structure remains uncontested. This should alert you to remain fixed above any productive structure you may encounter. We do so by first pinpointing possibly productive areas on a chart recorder, then relying on a bridle or double anchor to keep us in place. Slight variations can be compensated for, if needed, by tightening up on one anchor line as you slacken-off on the other, or vice versa, as the case may be. Peaks, high points, and dropoffs on underwater reefs are ideal places to look for initially; large rocky patches are other good spots to try.

The hooks used for this fish are



An average Long Island Sound blackfish, caught off Lloyd's Point in October. This fish seems to be wearing the same jacket as the guy that caught him.



unique, createdly solely for catching blackfish. Called Virginia hooks, they have an offset, wide-gapped, short point, and are much stronger than most ordinary hooks. They are so effective that this is the only hook confirmed blackfishermen will ever use. The most popular blackfish rig seems to be the tandem or Canarsie rig, two hooks married together by the leaders and tied into your line a couple of inches above a bank sinker that is heavy enough to keep everything in place on the bottom. There are two other rigs also used at times: the Peconic or Hi-Lo rig, used in Peconic Bay or in the ocean, and the wreck-fishing or deep sea rig that is used when actually fishing over sunken wrecks.

For the Hi-Lo rig, one hook is tied into your line via a dropper loop, a couple of inches above the siner, and a second hook is attached to the line about 15" above the first hook, or at least high enough above the first hook to avoid entanglement. The wreck-fishing rig is simply a single hook affair, tied to the line about 12" over the sinker with the use of a dropper loop. That fairly high solitary hook eliminates much of the fouling free-swinging second hooks usually cause on the many obstructions normally associated with wrecks.

Rigging blackfish baits is an art unto itself. Knowing when to use the proper bait, and which bait to use, is always important, but the correct presentation of blackfish baits is imperative if you want to catch blackfish. Seaworms are excellent blackie baits, and we do a good job with them in the Sound in the spring. However, they just don't stand a ghost of a chance in the fall because of the millions of bergalls we are plagued with at that time of the year. Still, especially when fished from shore off some gravel beach along the north shore, such as Rocky Point, Wildwood State Park, or Callahan's, a whole sandworm on a long-leadered Virginia hook can seemingly work wonders.

Inshore boatmen prefer the tandem rig, using fiddler crabs or green crabs as baits, and sometimes, clams. If hard clams are used, they must first be shucked before the hook is buried completely within the clam flesh to be effective. Large clams such as skimmers must be shucked and cut into pieces, with each piece containing part of the mushy clam stomach, and the hook must be hidden completely within the bait. Soft clams (steamers) are used intact. Insert the hook into the end of the siphon and thread that siphon onto the hook as you would a worm. As you finish, insert the hook into the clam within the shell, then slightly crack the wafer-thin shell with your boot heel, which allows the natural juices to leak out underwater, creating your own private miniature chum slick.

Using crabs as blackfish baits is an art within an art, and once again, the proper rigging procedure is imperative. With fiddler crabs, the giant claw is usually removed, and the hook is inserted into the crab body through the opening provided by the claw removal. Green crabs and all other hard-shelled crabs should first have all the legs cut off at the joint nearest the body, then be cut into halves or quarters, in accordance with the size of each crab. The top shell is removed and the hook is embedded into and through the crab body via the same method used for rigging fiddler crabs. With all crab baits, the importance of bringing the point and barb of the hook completely through the crab is crucial towards instantly hooking overcautious blackfish. Hermit crabs must be removed from their temporary shells before being rigged by inserting the hook into the soft body in the manner of rigging clam baits.

The Hi-Lo rig is usually baited with a crab on the bottom hook and clam on the top hook. However, you can and should experiment at times, and fresh squid strips or seaworms can also often be employed as effective high hook baits. The wreck fishing rig is usually baited with a whole green crab. If using such baits, either crack or completely remove the top shell and remove both big claws before rigging. Veteran wreck fishermen invariably rely on a strip of conch to do the job for them. Removed from the shell and pounded flat before being cut into strips, this tough bait not only withstands the determined assaults of thieving bergalls, but is a bait highly prized for blackfish as well.

Tackle used in pursuit of blackfish is understandably on the heavy side, and is usually conventional boat tackle. A fairly stout six or seven foot rod and a star drag equipped reel, filled with a good 30 lb. test monofilament line, is par for the course here. The fish encountered are not behemoths by any means, but they are tough, tenacious battlers, and you must seek them out on the roughest bottom imaginable, using fairly heavy sinkers to do so, hence the need for heavy tackle. Some inshore fishing can be done with

(Continued on page 40.)

FISHERMAN INTERVIEW:

GEORGE COMBS, SR.

by Stu Miller

The "Combs" name is an old one on Long Island and goes back to the time of the landing of the Pilgrims. George Combs, Sr. (whose son, George Jr. runs a bait and tackle shop on Merrick Rd. in Amityville) is the subject of this interview. His years as a bayman are probed and memories recalled for us "young pups," to give us a perspective we otherwise would be deprived of.

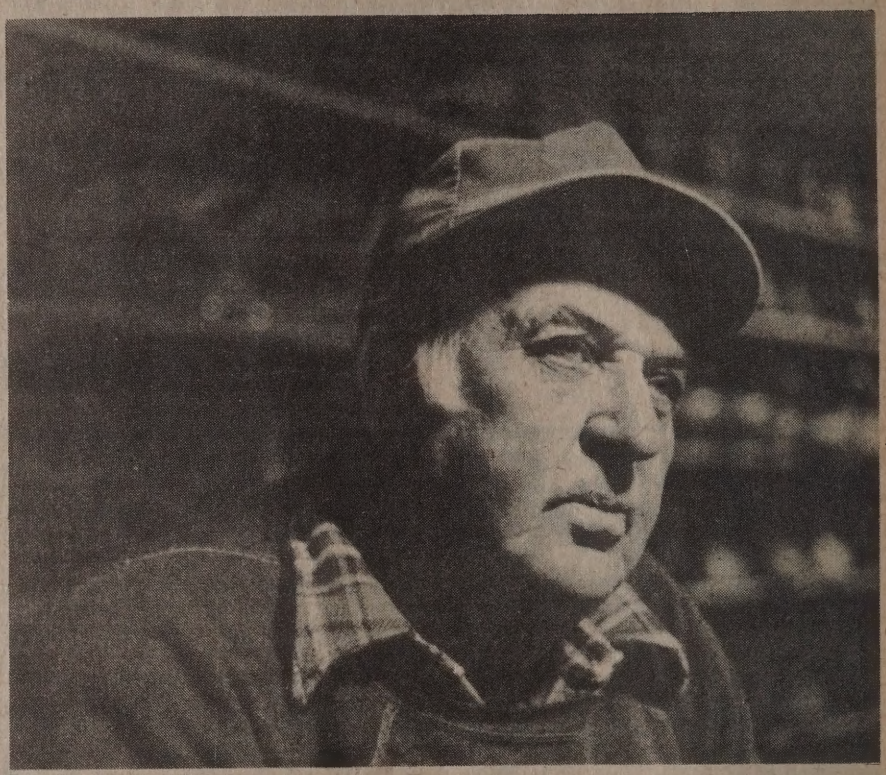
Q. How old are you, George?
A. Seventy-years-old. I was born in 1911 in Freeport, N.Y.

Q. What are your earliest memories of the area?
A. Both of my grandfathers had shipyards. One of them caught bait in the summer. My father ran Guggenheim's sanctuary on Fire Island. My family was always fishing, baiting, clamming, oystering...anything to do with the bay.

Q. When was the first tackle shop started in the family?
A. George, here, started this one around 1973 and it's the first. When I was young, every place around sold bait, line and hooks. But there were no tackle shops, as you know them today. Every general store sold the simple things.

Q. What are your earliest memories of working the bays?
A. In 1916, my father shrimped in West Channel, Bay Shore and sold to the weakfishermen. Cost $.50 a quart. Tell someone today they should use 10-15 qts. of shrimp to fish a tide for weakfish and they'd drop dead of shock. In those days, the "Wa-Wa-Yonda" Club fished 30 qts. of shrimp (live) a day per boat. This was a wealthy weakfishermen's club based in Captree. They fished with cotton thread that broke at under 2 lb. test. They lost a lot of fish in the strong tide at the lighthouse. We lived on a houseboat in Bay Shore summertimes. This was in the years from 1916-1920.

Q. When did you get into the bait business?
A. I think I was born with a shrimp net in my hand. At age 5 or 6, I was walking backward in the water with an iron frame net 14" high, 6' across, wtih a bag 10' long, or 1/4" mesh. You pulled this net walking backwards. I think I've walked around the world backwards with a shrimp net, if you add up all the years of doing it. The nets were cotton. They came from Augur in N.Y.C., which was the only fishermen's supply house then.



Q. How old were you when you started in the bait business?
A. I can't remember NOT being in the bait business, doing something or other—eeling, setting killie pots, etc.

Q. Who was the first combs to be a bayman?
A. That goes back to the Mayflower. Priscilla Priest and a John Combs, who arrived on a sistership in about 1600 married. Everyone then farmed and fished to survive and on Long Island, even when I was a boy, the farmers of Nassau and Suffolk Counties also fished with nets. My great great grandfather in Baldwin built centerboard schooners to haul coal & brick. Since our family has been here, we've always been involved in fishing, baiting and boat building. My grandpa George Combs in the 1890s made the finest reed eel pots found anywhere in those days.

Q. What did your father do to earn his daily bread?
A. He never worked on land, I'll tell you that. He gunned, fished or baited in those days; we always had a houseboat on Great South Bay or in Freeport. We sold a lot of spearing to fluke and snapper fishermen. Spearing kept on ice stayed fresh for 2 days. We got fifteen to twenty-five cents a quart for killies. A lot of boats fished in those days for weaks and fluke exclusively. These were small boats under sail, nothing like the present day party boats. These were sport fishermen who came out from Manhattan and Brooklyn and stayed for a few days at the many little hotels and boarding houses around the bays and on the islands. We called 'em "Yorkers." Local fishermen and baymen would take them out. They'd wait all year to spend a week out fishing the bay. My pop and I took people out to an inshore wreck that had some of the best blackfishing you could want.

Q. Has a typical bayman's day changed much over the years?
A. Yes—in every way. Outboard motors have made the greatest difference, in gunning, fishing and baiting. You used to have to be a BAYMAN, to "make it" on the bay. You had to know your apples. You used your two hands and had to row or sail or shove to get where you were going. Today, any idiot can start up an outboard motor and run across the bay. Many don't know what the heck

they're doing, but the outboard does half their work for them, getting them from here to there. Years ago, you really had to be good, just to get across the bay. The outboard was definitely the biggest single mechanical thing that changed a bayman's day. The actual methods of catching bait, etc., are pretty much unchanged and are the same as they were 60-70 years ago. Bottom and places change, equipment improved, but we still use the same methods as in earlier days. The local blacksmith made rakes and gear. Early spearing nets would rot if you didn't dry it out. Nets had to be salted to keep them from rotting. The first synthetic net was a brand called Man-Row, from Japan. We thought it was great! We'd get a couple of years out of it. Wouldn't rot! Then came nylon, dacron and mono nets...all a great improvement. Yes—modern equipment does make it easier. Back then, a 8 or 9 h.p. engine was a lot of engine. If you lived in Seaford, it took a half-day trip to get to Jones Inlet. Things (including boats) moved a lot slower in those days. Freeport and Baldwin fishermen could ocean fish easier. Amityville fishermen were more limited to the bay. Where you lived determined what you did for a living. It's still backbreaking work. You can still get skunked. You get what you put into it. You get cycles...Now, spearing are at a very low cycle. Some years they're up. Sand eels are at a high cycle now. Killies have their ups and downs too. It never stays the same. Ever since '50 when they sprayed for gypsy moths, they killed all the mink off the meadows, the fiddlers, grass shrimp, elder bushes and bank mussels with the DDT. Never hurt the hard clams, though. There are more clams today than when I was a boy. Transport was important to sell a catch. Freeport is where produce shipped out of. It was a big terminal and near the inlet. Ships loaded and unloaded there and it was a jumping village.

Q. What are some of your fondest memories?

A. One is the crab car kept by my grandfather George. Different sections contained crabs in different stages of shedding. I got so expert at it, that even today, I can look at a crab from 6' away and tell you if it's hard or soft or when it will shed. Really, every day is a fond memory for me. When you can go down to the bay in the morning before daylight and see the sun come up, it makes for a good day.

In 1920, when weaks were strong in Peconic Bay, from the start of May-June 20, fishermen came there from all over for the weakfish bonanza; $25 was the fare on a boat, including bait and 15-25 qts. of shrimp for chum. Bait was 1-2 flats of worms. I shrimped (netted shrimp) from Riverhead to Orient on the north side, and from Riverhead to North Sea on the south side. Then the eel grass died off and we came to Amityville where we sand shrimped with a crew of six. I'd get up at 1AM and run the truck, loaded with shrimp, to Peconic and we'd sell to the boats. We sold to all the Bay Shore and Babylon and Jersey boats. That would last till June 20, then died off. There were a lot of fish wasted. The weather was warm and ice was scarce. On Saturdays, and Sundays, you'd see hundreds of big weakfish dumped at the side of the road on Rt. 25. Loads of big weaks were common, as were tubs of big porgies. Route 25 was lined with rotted fish—a terrible waste. Then a law was finally passed that said you couldn't catch weakfish until May 15, and wouldn't you know that that was the last year they caught these big weakfish. Then started the runs of 1-3 lbers. Forty to 100 weaks a day, from 5-12 lbs. a man was an easy catch. The Peconic natives weakfished and scalloped. Today, New Suffolk is no bigger than it was 40 yrs. ago. For those six weeks, you wouldn't believe the number of people that came in there. It really jumped. All the guys getting away from home drank rum and raised hell. It was an unforgettable period. I'd like to see something like that again. We worked like hell, but we enjoyed it. Our part was the selling of the shrimp which we caught from Massapequa to Freeport and I trucked them every night from 1923-1935. Yep—a huge number of fish were caught and a huge number

(Continued on next page.)

Huddled against a chilling rain, George Combs, Sr. is seen at work, netting bait in a south shore drain. Photo by Dick Mermon.

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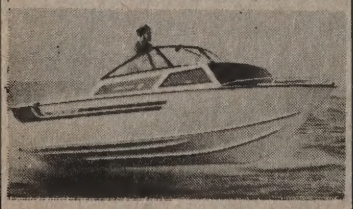

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were wasted. That last part still makes me sad.

Q. What's your favorite kind of fishing?

A. Weakfishing with light tackle, chumming with shrimp, at some secret holes and sod banks. We never caught bass (in the bays) till the bridges were in. I used to haul nets on the beach with the old-timers and we got a lot of bass that way, but not in the bays. A few, but not many. We had a lot of fluke and big fluke were common. It was nothing to get 10-12 lb. fluke and these were chummed. And speaking of chum, I don't care what kind of fish you fish for, there's NOTHING like chum for a good catch. Crushed egg shells was a terrific chum for weaks.

Q. What did you like best about the business?

A. I was always my own boss. If you don't work, you don't eat. A fisherman's philosophy is that often you think you're going to starve to death...you never quite do. Every once in awhile you think you're gonna get rich...and you never quite do that either. "Independence" is the word that wraps it up. And you're part of the land and part of the bay and they're part of you. I wouldn't have had it any other way. There are no "baymen" any more. The guys you see out there are clammers. That's the only thing they know. A true "bayman" is one who can do ANYTHING there is to do on the bay and has done it. I don't know any doing it today. They've given it up, retired or died off.

Q. What did you hate most about the business?

A. Years back, when shrimping, in the middle of the night I'd have to jump into chest-deep cold water wearing a wool shirt and wool pants that wouldn't dry out for two-three days. You'd walk in the water all night catching these shrimp. I think I hated that more than anything.

Q. Have you always spent your winters on Long Island?

A. Yes. Occasional little trips, but this is my year-round home; always has been. I hope to die here on Long Island—but not for a long time yet.

Q. What do you do in the winter months?

A. Duck shoot, carve duck and snipe decoys. I'm in semi-retirement, but between overhauling outboard motors, repairs, making pots and nets, it keeps me pretty busy—I'm glad I have all these things to do. Eeling has really come back in popularity in the last few years, due to the high prices paid by Japan and other foreign countries. Years ago, L.I. produced more eels than anywhere else I knew of. There was always a market for eels. Fulton Fish Market plus all the hotels and restaurants around on the south shore and on the islands. They served eels in shore dinner and had 'em in bar-rooms. But most of these places are gone today.

Q. Why did you follow the bay?

A. It was natural circumstance. My family did it, so it was natural that I did it too. I was involved in the bay from the time I was a small boy. Even when you're a kid, you could always make a dollar somehow, off the bay. Baiting was the main thing that I've done all my life as a bayman, though I've done everything else, too. Shrimping was about 80% of it; the other 20% killies and spearing. Used to be a lot of worms dug in Seaford and Freeport. I could dig 3500 bloodworms a day, getting two to seven cents apiece. No more today, though. You can go out and dig yourself a dozen or two, but it's long, hard work and hard to find places that are wormy. Once worms are dug up, others never come back to that spot. On the north shore, they will come back.

Q. Do you think the marine worm industry can last indefinitely?

A. Not if the pickers keep on taking the sizes they're taking. No matter what you take, if you keep on taking the small, you'll never have the big worms, the breeders. The pickers are only cutting their own throats.

Q. Without giving away trade secrets, how do you gather bait?

A. I catch killies in a pot 2' long by 12" wide by 8" high with a wire funnel, baited with female horseshoe crabs. We corral the horseshoes the last week of May thru the first half of June and we hold them all summer. Green crabs we take in larger pots and in different areas, using bunker for bait. Used to get 25-28 bushels per 24 hr. period. Now 3-4 bushels is an exceptionally good day. I still set killie pots in the same spots I set 50 years ago, along with some new spots.

Q. Can bait be over-harvested?

A. Yes! Sure! We never set two days straight in the same area. If a good bayman doesn't follow conservation methods, he's out of luck and out of business pretty damn quick. We work different spots so's not to fish out any one place.

Q. How long can worms be kept alive?

A. Bloodworms you can get six-seven days out of. Sandworms only 3-4 days, once they're dug. No one's ever been able to farm them, either, not that it hasn't been tried.

Q. Where do you get fiddler crabs from?

A. Florida. China backs are the good ones. We used to have them here. The Jones Beach area used to be good for them until it was filled in with sand for the beaches. A few spots still exist on the north shore and east end, but most have to be shipped from Florida.

Q. How's shrimping lately?

A. Two years ago, there were a lot. Last year there weren't a lot. We used to sell lots of live shrimp, but now it's mainly frozen. Years ago, we used to have a bait dock in Freeport and we sold 8-10,000 worms a week and I don't remember selling a small worm; they were all big. There are supposed

to be state laws in Maine on worm size, but lots of "babies" get through. And as long as people are still willing to pay the money, the small stuff will continue to be picked and sold.

Q. What's your weakfishing M.O.?
A. Shrimp on the hook and shrimp chum is still the best way, in my opinion. I put two shrimp on a hook, the first with the hook threaded thru from head to tail and the next shrimp from tail to head. Let the barb stick out just a little bit. Chum with shrimp at the same time. With a tide starting, you fish light. As the tide builds faster, use some shot and feed more line, to get deep. You must NEVER pull back on the line. The bait should go *one way only*, straight out with the chum slick. If you don't get a pickup after letting out 100' of line, reel in and start over again. I also like to chum for bass this way.

Q. Would you choose this same life's work again if you had the chance?
A. Absolutely. I loved what I've done. But you can't start it as a young man today.

Q. How was life on Long Island when you were young?
A. Simpler. Less crowded. Undeveloped. You could hunt and trap and fish like they do in Alaska now.

Q. Do you have a bay shack?
A. We've had bay shacks for some 200 years, I guess and we still have one. I had a houseboat in the Meadows, lost in the hurricane of '51. It hit the Goose Creek Bridge and broke in half. All I could get out of it was an iron frying pan and a half bottle of Teacher's Scotch. We had 3 bay houses in Swift Creek, that were lost in the same hurricane. The one we have today is on the east side of Goose Creek Bridge, for gear. We fun from there in season and use it as our base of operations when we're on the bay.

Q. With having to run the store, how much of a bayman's life does your son George lead?
A. Quite a bit, but not as much as he'd like to. He's out everyday till noon catching bait, then he's behind the counter till 9PM. That's at least 5 days a week. The store does take away from his time on the bay. George's son (George also), age 13, goes baiting with him, so there's another generation coming along.

Q. Prior to refrigeration and freezing, how would you keep bait fresh?
A. Spearing needed ice. Shrimp were okay if you kept them in under 60° water temperature. Shrimp could also be packed in sawdust without water and could be kept alive 3-4 hours that way. Clams would be kept in floats in water that kept shiners alive. Spearing were caught and kept in cars (cages) in the water. We had to tow slowly to keep them alive. Shiners were for fluke. Now there's a 3 day a week quota and a size limit for shiners. There are problems with squid. You can't get enough bait these days. There are regulations in Florida on fiddlers. Squid is being shipped to Japan for food. What's the future going to bring? Sand eels are the only plentiful bait now and some claim they eat the spawn of all fish species. There are a lot of forces working against good future bait supplies. Demand is always growing, while grounds and places to harvest bait are diminishing. The balance is getting too one-sided. Good bait is hard to get. A lot gets flown to the West Coast where they pay premium prices. I'm semi-retired now, but I still work the bay in the summertime and I intend to do it as long as I can keep my legs going. I also carve birds, mend nets, make traps, repair outboard motors, etc. You never get done when you're self-employed.

Q. Are there more baymen on the water these days?
A. More clammers; very few baymen.

Q. If a person wanted to take up the baymens life today, could he?
A. Well, let's put it this way—there's no more oysters and if there are, the areas are polluted. There's only hard clams. Eels are on the decline now. You must scallop in the fall and bait in summer. And there are so many part-time guys on the bay...Nowadays you don't have anything to yourself. A bayman would respect another bayman and find his own spot. But these part-timers get right on top of you. Too many people into it! And this is aided by the advent of the outboard motor. No...I can't see a future for a newcomer trying to work the bay for a livelihood. The future looks bleak. Every year fewer areas of the bay are open to work, due to pollution. Long established baymen have most of the market, so where's a new man going to sell to? He's got to have the equipment and the knowledge. One's no good without the other. There's a lot against a guy going into it. A couple of good days and they see dollar signs, but you get loads of poor days, believe me.

Q. What's the most unusual thing that ever happened to you on the bay?
A. I'd have to say the time in the late 50s, when I caught a whale with my bare hands. While setting green crab pots near the Meadowbrook Bridge, I see this 1 ft. high fin out of the water. I followed him to shoal water in the garvey and I grabbed the tail and flipped him into the boat. He was 7' long and weighed about 300 lbs. I tied the tail so he couldn't knock the bottom out of the garvey. It was a little pilot whale and I brought him home and tied him by the tail to a piling at my dock. The Coney Island Aquarium took him. And speaking of garvies, in the early 20s I brought the first garvies to Long Island from New Jersey. These were 30' inboard garvies. I soon started building the first garvies on Long Island for outboards.

Q. That's what I call a busy life. Thanks, George, and we'll be seeing you on the bay.

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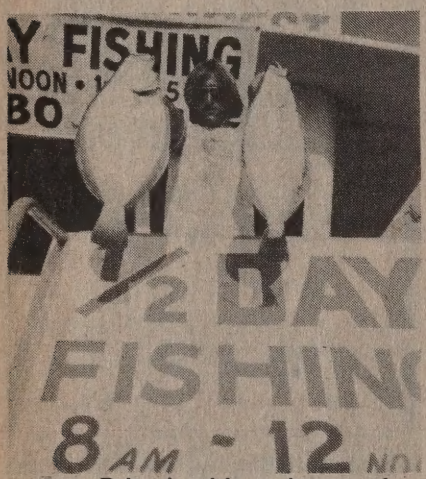
Montauk Report

by Stu Miller

Captain Wayne King of the charter boat **King Wayne** on Saturday fished the Reelers Fishing club, Centerport and at inner Cartwright blasted 184 gorillagators and was back at the dock at 1PM with everyone arm weary. This was all on bait and chum. Fish ran 12 to 20 lbs. and catches averaged 15 a man. High hook with 24 blues was Chris Schlachter. On Sunday, Chris fished with buddies Al and Bob on the charter boat **Sundance II** out of Star Island Yacht Club. The day before Bob and Al had trolled 51 blues from 8-12 lbs. off Block Island on a charter for Jack Donnellan of Staten Island and party. On the trip Sunday fishing at outer Cartwright Chris and buddies again caught 84 jumbo blues. Jack, fishing 10 lb. test Ande took a 6 lb. black sea bass, a potential IGFA record fish. It was weighed in at Star Island and all necessary papers filed with IGFA.



Don Briand with a brace of doormats weighing 8 and 9 lbs. taken in the Montauk rips aboard the "Viking Starship."

Captain Bud Dorman of the 6-man limit open boat **Waxed** called to say that the striped bass fishing has picked up. Fishing the Montauk Rips, Tony Lopez, Bronx, leads so far with a 25 lb. bass. John Stonitsch, Northport was high hook for the week with 61 blues. Buddy says this was the week of the wind and catches would have been much better, had the winds not been howling.

The **Marlin Fleet** reports very good porgy fishing at the Point, fares averaging 50-80 fish per man from 1/2 to 3½ lbs. The day bluefishing remains super to the tune of 12-20 choppers a man, fish from 12-25 lbs.

Captain Mike of the charter boat **Montauk** tells us that the striped bass action increases day by day. A customer on Sunday's trip had 5 bass up to 29 lbs. Mike says there are still plenty of weaks and blues around, with blues going up to 21 lbs. Catches are being made on both diamond jigs and bait.

Captain Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fleet** tells of super action on the Block Island porgies. Friday's high hook was Rich Erickson of Somerset, N.J. with 160 jumbo porgies. The night

Jumbo blues and a pair of brown sharks taken on jigs at Cartwright aboard the charter boat "Vivienne."

bluefishing is still great at Cartwright says the skipper with fish being all gorillas taking both bait and jigs. The codfishing at Coxes Ledge has diminished with doggies moving in. With fishing on the Ledge spotty, the cod boat is now fishing favorite wrecks, bringing catches back up. Sunday's pool fish was a 50 lb. cod and a 30 lb. pollack was also taken. Note that the last Nantucket wreck trip will be Sunday night, October 18. See ad for details if you don't want to miss out on some of this dynamite fishing.

Maureen at **Gone Fishing Marina** tells us that charter boat **Nostalgia II** on Sunday had excellent bluefishing at Cartwright with fish up to 18 lbs. using drails with herring or bunker on the hook. Blackfish up to 8 lbs. have been caught at Cerebrus Shoals w hile flounders are a good item at Gin Beach and Shagwong Point. Joe Burkwind scored with blackfish of 10 and 11 lbs. on green crab. Packy Collins, moonlighting from chores aboard the **Ever Ready** out of Huntington nailed 3 stripers up to 40 lbs. on eels at Great Eastern over the weekend.

Captain Ron Grandinetti of the charter boat **Julie III** on Tuesday had Captain Al of the Betty W, Jim McDonald and four other party boat mates from Sheepshead Bay out on a trip. They scored with a catch of 620 porgies and five flounders working Fisher's Island on clam. Saturday's trip for Carl Ianno and group had 50 blues from 3-18 lbs. fishing Cartwright, plus 75 lbs. of porgies taken at the Point. On Sunday, Louis Hernandez and group blasted 87 blues at outer Cartwright, fish up to 20 lbs. Herring was used as hook bait on the weekend.

Captain Joe McBride of the charter boat **My Mate** called to say that Sunday's trip for Bob Riggio and his brother Dr. John Riggio of Port Jeff

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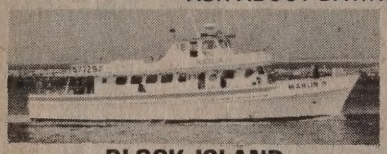

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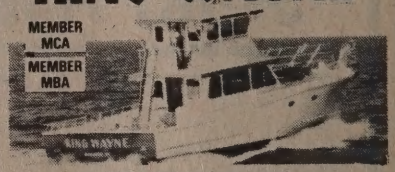

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Young Lance Hill of Huntington admires a 20 lb. bluefish he caught at Montauk aboard the "Adios."

caught 2 stripers and a number of 15 lb. blues. The bass were caught on the south side and the blues in North Rips.

Captain Phil Lewis of the charter boat **Adios** reports the bass fishing remains spotty. Thursday afternoon a charter for Earl Wittinez and group landed a 30 lb. striper while two smaller bass were caught by one of the wives. Friday's charter had 4 bass, while four more stripers were taken on a late afternoon charter. The other days of the week, Phil's groups had from 1-3 fish. The bluefishing is still excellent in the Triangle with a few good weakfish also being taken.

South Shore Report

by Fred Golofaro

HAMPTON BAYS

Anglers took advantage of the weather this weekend and some fine flounder catches were the result, reported John Mangino of **Corr's Fishing Station.** On Friday, Jerry Marcus and Ralph Pacio took 198 flounder at the Coast Guard Station

Kei Hattori, Roland Shar, Toko and Eddie with school tuna, bonito and blues caught on the charter boat "Nostalgia II" at Montauk.

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using corn chum and worms and clams. Saturday's best catch saw Rich Main and his son Jesse take 130 flounder on worms and clams in the basket area.

MORICHES BAY

Gary at **Silly Lilly Fishing Station** called the weekend flounder fishing good for those who fished the last three hours of incoming water. Best catches are being made at Haven's Point, and the buoys 42 and 44 on blood worms. Joe and Linda Ieung returned on Saturday with 60 fish up to 2 pounds.

"Very good and getting better" was how Larry of **L & M Marine** described the flounder fishing. The most consistent action has been near buoy 54 although fish in the bay run a bit larger. Among those scoring well at buoy 54 were Bill and Rich Seidel and Chris and Debbie Loffredo who totalled 97 keepers on Sat. On Sun., Joe Alexio and Jake Nahirny had 90 keepers. Both catches were made on worms and mussel chum.

At **Skidmore's Fishing Station,** Jim DeVita told me that boats averaged between 40 and 60 fish on the weekend. He also mentioned weighing several fish up around the 2 lb. mark. Haven's Point, and bouys 42 and 44 on incoming water accounted for the best scores with blood worms and mussel chum getting the nod in the bait department. Blue claw crabs are in good supply at buoys 43 and 44.

MASTIC BEACH

At **Stiriz's Fishing Station,** Bill said that the first real solid flounder fishing of the season took place Sunday when many boats had catches ranging between 75 and 100 flatties. Action was concentrated in the buoy 19 to 21 area on sand and blood worms. The largest of the fish were 1½ pounders. Crabbing was also very good from buoy 19 to the bridge on rings.

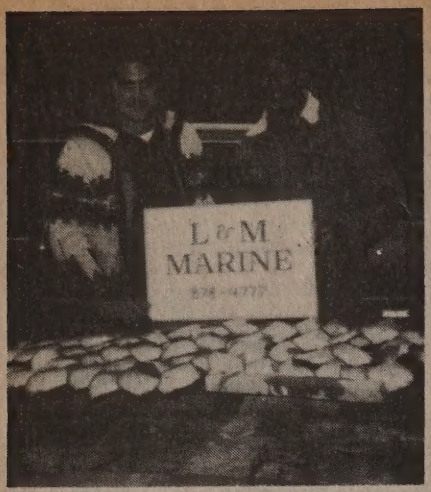
OAKDALE

Dave at **J&R Sport Center** spoke of plenty of flounder to the east in Moriches Bay and a fair supply of fish in the pocket behind the Sore Thumb on worms. Blackfishing on the Kismet Reef remains good on fiddlers and green crabs around the tide changes. The only boat bass Dave saw this week was a 26¾ pounder checked in by Larry Oehler. It was taken on an eel at Montauk.

EAST ISLIP

Mike at **Peppy's Bait & Tackle** said

This beautiful catch of flounder was made at Haven's Point in Moriches Bay by Stan Bigora and Jim DeVita. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.



Gary Muniz and Tom Williams with 65 flounder caught at Buoy 54 in Moriches Bay. They fished out of L&M Marine Fishing Station.

that blackfish and flounder are getting most of the attention in his area. Flounder are being found at the Sore Thumb and in the State Channel with worms accounting for the best scores. The best bet for the blacks remains the reef at Kismet with fiddlers or green crabs.

BAY SHORE

Carl Miller of **Smokey's Bait & Tackle** heard that some good catches of flatties were made in the Sore Thumb Pocket while blackfishing continues to hold up on the Kismet Reef and Bay wrecks. Blues in the 6 to 12 pound range were found near the pound nets on the weekend and boatmen using jigs and umbrella rigs did well. Another body of big blues has been camped south of the Inlet in 100 to 110 feet of water. Jiggers, chummers and trollers have done well here.

Capt. Delanoy of the **Casey Lee** said that blackfishing slowed somewhat but flounder fishing continues to improve. On Sunday afternoon's flood tide, fares averaged 6 to 12 flatties in the ½ to 1½ pound range apiece. Fish were taken on both worms and clams.

CAPTREE

Both the **Speedy VI** and **Captree Queen** have been doing a job on that body of choppers located south of Fire Island Inlet in 100 to 110 feet of water. Action has been hot both day and night with fish ranging from 4 to 8 pounds and 12 to 16 pounds. Daytime catches are all on jigs. Capt. Speedy Hubert labeled the fishing "super all week and weekend." Capt. Gordan Roman, who is fishing the Queen for flounder during the day, said flatfishing slowed some this week. On Sunday, some good size flatties were found in the Sore Thumb Pocket. Also, as a change of pace, the skipper experimented with the departing fluke and surprisingly enough, a few were taken.

Capt. Neil Delanoy of the **Lady Ann** echoed the same reports of excellent bluefishing. He also reported a very good catch of sea bass, porgies and blackfish on the Ocean Reef Sunday. The biggest sea bass was a 5 pound 2 ounce specimen landed by Mario Rodriguez.

Capt. Charlie Kennedy, with his **Capt. Bob Joseph** has also been working the outside reef and ocean wrecks and doing a job on porgies averaging 1 to 2 lbs., blackfish to 7 lbs., and sea bass. The largest of the latter over the weekend was a 5 lber. taken by Steve Kearny of Massapequa Park. Don Berkey had a 3 lb. 14 oz. porgie.

Charter Boat **Blue Albatross** reported a nice catch of flounder on Sunday with most fish ranging from ½ to 1½ pounds. Both worms and clams were effective. A weekday charter did well with porgies, sea bass and blacks on the Ocean Reef. The bay reef continues to produce blacks in good numbers.

BABYLON

Capt. Jack of the **Luci II** said that the Saturday charter for the Stiegenwald family resulted in a fair catch of flounder at the Amityville Cut and blackfish at the Wantagh Bridge. On Sunday, L.I.F. subscriber Robert Goelz and family had a good day with the flatties near Gilgo. Blood worms and clams along with plenty of clam chum was the ticket. Plenty of blues outside the Inlet ripe for jigging.

From **Augies Bait & Tackle,** Ralph reported the winner of Sunday's Babylon Tuna Club Flounder Derby. Club member Lou Clementz topped the field with a 1 pound 11 ounce flattie. Ralph knew that good score were made in the Sore Thumb Pocket and in the State Channel. Blackfishing on the bay reef remained good. Lots of blues in the 8 yo 10 pound range in 55 feet of water south of the tower on jigs over the weekend while the 100 foot depths south of the Inlet have held fish for over a week now. The **Angel Jean** made a canyon run on Friday night and returned Saturday with 3 bigeyes in the 160 lb. class and 6 albacore at 55 lbs.

LINDENHURST

Mike, of **Lindenhurst Bait & Tackle** told me of a catch of 5 blues, including slammers of 17 and 19¼ pounds, plugged on the west bar of Fire Island Inlet Friday by Ken Ryde. He also checked in a couple of flounder scores on Saturday. George Schomburg had 29 flatties on worms in the State Channel at Gilgo while Frank Andrukanis took 40 in the Sore Thumb Pocket with clams and mussel chum.

SEAFORD

Lon, of **Wanser Bait & Tackle** reported lots of flounder in Massapequa Cove, at Squan Island, Four Corners and the bridges. Worms along with clam or mussel chum is important. Still a few sea bass mixed with the flatties and blackfish at the bridges. On Sunday, Ron Klein of Wantagh put a load of 3 to 4 lb. blues aboard his boat with umbrella rigs. He found the fish in 60 feet of water south of Jones Inlet.

John, at **Pops Fishing Station**, told of good flounder and blackfish action in the area. Steve Gosha and Chici Skintij had 40 blacks and 40 flounder near the first Wantagh bridge on worms and crabs. Joe Meche and 3 friends totalled 45 flounder to 2 lbs. on worms and mussel chum at the second bridge. Herman and Josie DuLinto had 50 flatties to 1½ lbs.

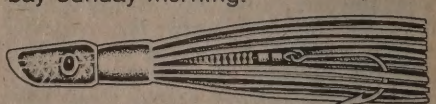
From **Capt. Eddie's Fishing Station** art Wright named four corners, Massapequa Cove, and Great Island Channel as the best bets for flounder fans. Most boats return with 40 to 70 flatties apiece with lots of chum being the key to the better catches. Outside of flounder activity, crabs are still good in the deeper hole of Massapequa Cove and cholena produced a 23 lb. blue for George Buzzetta of Bellmore.

Capt. Brian of the **Chinco** spoke of excellent flounder fishing all week, except for Thursday. Individual catches ran as high as 40 fish on some days. Fish range from ½ to 1½ lbs. Worms and an outgoing tide have proved to be a deadly combination.

MERRICK

From **Nick's Fishing Station,** George reported plenty of flounder, with many in the 1 lb. range being taken at Merrick Point, and in Ned's and Broad Creeks on worms and clam. Blacks still abundant at the bridges, but many are small. One boatman on Saturday had 40 blues in the 4 to 5 lb. class on umbrella rigs south of the Jones Beach Tower. He worked in 40 foot depths.

Dennis Newmann clicked with bass of 38 and 42½ lbs. on bunker in the bay Sunday morning.



Gary Medina, Tony Gianpaolo and Frank LaForgia with 51 flatties up to 2 lbs. taken on blood worms at buoy 43 in Moriches Bay. The trio fished out of Silly Lily Fishing Station.

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New York Bight Report

by Stu Miller

FREEPORT

Captain Paul "Spider" Schmidt of the **Aloma II** tells us that Saturday's catch was mostly blackfish up to 5 lbs. and sea bass up to 2½ lbs., while Sunday's action consisted of a mess of sea bass and a few porgies with the porgies going to 1½ lbs. All action has been on local wrecks.

Captain Andy of the **Miss Freeport**, sailing 2 half day flounder trips daily tells us the weekend saw best action for him in Swift Creek on the ebbing tide. Fish were in the 3/4 lb. range and high hook Sunday was 28 flounders.

Freeport Boatmen's Association reports the Wednesday tuna trip on the **Super Spray II** saw 7 hookups and one school tuna of approximately 18 lbs. caught. More small and giant tuna are showing in the Mud Hole area. The boat is running open for tuna every Wednesday. The boat's regular daily trips are getting sea bass and blackfish on local wrecks with fish being medium sized. The next cod wreck trip is Oct. 18 and there are still some spaces open. The Association boats doing bluefish have been making excellent scores all this past week. The boats fishing Cholera such as **Acme II** and **Corsair** have been getting a good number of 18-20 lb. monsters along with some big sea bass and big fluke on chum and bait. Some of the other boats such as **Lady J III, Atlantic and Norsemen II** have been fishing 20 to the SE taking very good numbers of 12-15 lb. blues on jigs. Night bluefishing trips utilizing bait and chum have been doing very well.

The **Captain Al** has been bluefishing all week and the skipper says its been a slaughter, mainly at Cholera and offshore wrecks with fish in the 20 lb. range and being strictly diamond jigged.

The **Starstream II** is now running his fall blackfish special daily except Wednesdays. Every Wednesday the boat will be running a cod and pollack wreck trip sailing at 4AM. See ad for details.

Captain Gary ran open boat Sunday and had excellent floundering along with assorted sea bass, blackfish and porgies. Gary says he still has choice dates available in October. The boat will be running open Sunday at 8AM for flounders.

A night bluefish charter provided this surprise 12 lb. fluke for Charlie Ingrassio on a recent trip aboard the "Blue Fin II" out of Freeport.

The **Capt. Lou Fleet** had a good flounder week while things slowed a bit some days due to the strong winds. High hooks ranged in the 60s with fish to 2½ lbs. On Sunday, John DeRosa of Valley Stream had 65 flatties, while Hy Brown of New Hyde Park was happy with the 60 he caught, all on the full day boat. On the fleet's half day boat, sailing 2 trips daily, high hooks have been in the 30s with catches averaging 15 a man, working Reynolds Channel.

Ronnie at **Hudson Pt. Fishing Station** reports an 814 lb. giant tuna weighed in Sunday night on Captain Brooks Graham's Barbara. The angler was Ron Getz. Elliot Toffel was at the wheel and assisting were Joe DeMaria and Artie Kuzak. The fish took 3 hrs. 20 minutes to boat and this was done without a fighting chair. The crew officially thanks the skipper and crew of the Jersey boat High Roller which cut its own trolling lines when they got tangled with Ron Getz' line and threatened to cause him to lose the fish. Ron also says lots of flounder

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Bob Kuno and Mike and Steve Santucci with a haul of 79 blackfish from the Rota Wreck off of Tobay. Photo courtesy of Greg Nisito, Shakespeare Rep.

in the bay of nice size, best in Mill Creek, Freeport Creek and Long Creek on mussel, worm and clam. Clam chum is the secret for success. Both tides are producing with the first of the outgoing best. Biggest fish (flounder) of the week was a 2 lb. 2 oz. flattie. Good blackfishing at the bridges, particularly Funday, where they are averaging 1½ lbs. A lot of weakfish on live bunker at the Meadowbrook Bridge, Construction barge and Swift Creek. Fred Boch of the Hudson Anglers had 3, 14 lb. weakfish in as many days at the Meadowbrook.

Last week's Long Island Tuna Tournament, as reported on in this column was sponsored by Hudson Anglers jointly with Tournament Anglers. It's an annual tournament and both clubs anticipate a big turnout for their 1982 Long Island Tuna Tournament.

Blackfish were the best catches of the week, especially Sunday, reports **Anthony's Fishing Station**. Fred Mulcahey of Brooklyn had 60 blackfish fishing the Meadowbrook Bridge and CG station on fiddlers. Blacks went to 4 lbs. at the bridge. Flounders also being caught on worms in the high flats drain area.

POINT LOOKOUT

Charter boat **Marie III** called to report Saturday's trip fishing in 120' of water SE of Jones enjoyed fair to good bluefishing using jigs with green tails for blues 5-15 lbs. Those who worked the jigs hard caught the most. Sunday's charter working local offshore wrecks had a mixed bag of blacks, sea bass, porgies and a fluke. Fish ranged from 1/2 to 2 lbs. on clam. The boat has a couple of November flounder and cod dates open. Watch for special cod wreck trips coming up soon.

Scotty's Fishing Station tells of big blues at Cholera on chum and bait with many fish in the 20-22 lb. class. The east side of the inlet along the jetty has been producing schoolies and small blues and weaks by slow trolling Tiger Tails and plugs. The schoolies are 18-24 inchers. Twelve lb. class weaks are still being taken on

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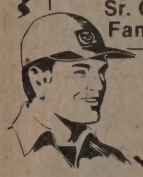

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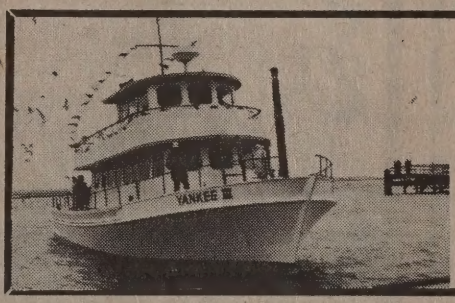

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live bunker and baby blackfish around the Meadowbrook and Swift Creek areas. Good flounder fishing in Long Creek and Reynolds Channel with the rental skiffs averaging 30-40 flatties. Sea bass remain plentiful from buoy 17 to the bridge. Blackfish are a good item at the bridge on fiddlers.

Ed's Fishing Station also tells of lots of blackfish at the bridges on fiddlers and green crab chunks, best all around the slack tides. On Sunday, 43 good flounder were taken from the flats by Ed Puzio and Bruno Grabiec of N.J. on worm and mussel and a lot of mussel chum. Flounders also available at buoys 15 and 18. Sea bass seem to be thinning out. Lots of blues in 45' of water Saturday on umbrellas and single tubes.

Jan at **Thompson's Deli and Fishing Supplies** tells us that Bill Fix on Afternoon Delight scored with 5 9 lb. weakfish which he trolled between the CG STation and Meadowbrook bridge on umbrellas Saturday on the last of the flood. Bill also had 1, 5 lb. striper.

Jack at **Arthur Street Fishing Station** tells us solid catches of flounder are coming in from Scow Creek, Swift Creek, Garrett's Lead, off BOCES, and Reynolds Channel. Fish are mixed sizes, anywhere from 6-24 a boat. Worms and red clam are working best, assisted by mussel chum. Blues being trolled in 40' of water and being baited and jigged at Cholera. Doctors Bernstein and Greenspan had 10 blues from 15 lbs. on up at Cholera. Fair weakfishing with fish running an average of 10 lbs. between the Meadowbrook bridge and Swift Creek bridge on live bunker. Good blackfishing at the bridges with fish up to 3 lbs. along with some sea bass and porgies mixed in.

LONG BEACH

Long Beach Sports Marina reports plenty of flounder being caught in the 1-2 lb. range between the cement block and the railroad trestle. Bob and Rudy Williams had 60, 10 of which were over 2 lbs. and the others up to 1½ lbs. on worm and chum, best on

A load of blues jigged and trolled by the crew from Eng. 69 - Ladder Comp. 28 of the N.Y.F.D. They were caught off of Sea Bright on the "Kim."

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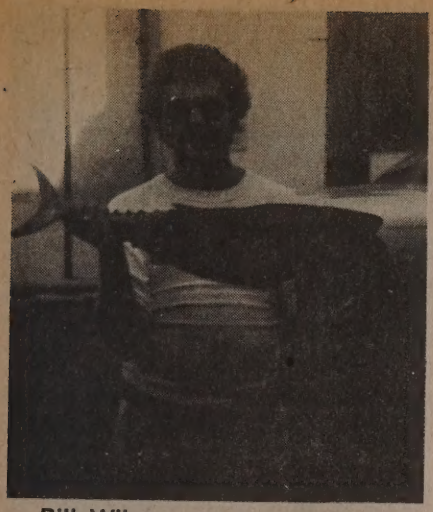

Bill Wilcox was a recent pool winner on the "Flamingo III" with this 15 lb. albacore taken on a jig and tube combo.

the ebb. A good number of small kingfish around also. Blackfishing off a bit on the weekend with the moon tide. Small blues off the beaches for trollers. Bernie Haag took a 16 lb. bass trolling a white bucktail at the Atlantic Beach Bridge, Thursday at 5Pm. Jon Stein and Nick Savine took 38 blues Friday from 10-18 lbs. at Cholera on live bergalls, then switching to bunker chunks at dusk.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Captain Ronnie Lepper of the charter boat **Kim** tells of good schoolie bass catches being made at the channels. A 43 lb. striper and a 30 lber. were trolled up on Danny plugs off the Rockaways. Fish are also being taken from the beaches on live or chunked bunker. A few mud hole tuna have been caught this past week ranging from 150-300 lbs.

Al at **Reynolds Reef Fishing Station** tells us that striped bass have moved in and are hitting at the Atlantic Beach bridge and all along the rocky shore line on live bunker, big Danny plugs and Rebels. Oceanside angler Frank Silvestro trolled a big Rebel plug and was rewarded with a 43 lb. bass. At the bridge, fish in the 25-30 b. category are being taken on live bunker. Plenty of blackfish at both ends of the ABB and also at the Silver Point jetty. Jerry Schiffer caught an 8 lb. 9 oz. black on his boat Jubilee and leads in the blackfish category in the Atlantic Beach Rod and Gun Club contest. Decent catches of sea bass still being made at buoy 10 on clam and squid. Good flounder catches at the Woodmere Bay creeks and at Magnolia Pier.

EAST ROCKAWAY

Skippy's Bait & Tackle tells of lots of flounder during the week but the moon tide hurt things a little on the weekend. Best areas have been cement block, the trestle, Pearsall's and Hog Channel. Skip says this is probably the best fall flounder season in years. Blackfish continue good at the bridges, jetties, and inshore wrecks on green crabs and fiddlers. Lots of blues being trolled and livelined on the inshore wrecks. Weaks are also being trolled at the 45' line. Umbrellas , tubes and spoons are all producing. Crabs can still be had in the deeper holes.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

John at **Stella Maris** tells us about big blues and weaks caught by chunking at Gerritsen Beach, Jamaica

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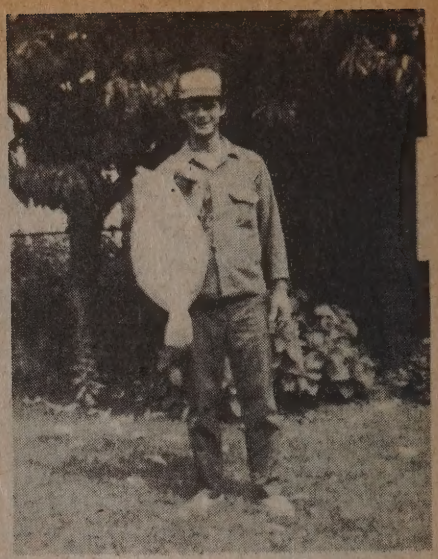


Subscriber Steve Tringali cliked with this 12 lb. doormat on the Coney Island flats. He checked it in at Stella Maris Bait and Tackle.

Bay and Norton's Point. Plenty of albies and bones and football tuna from 20-100 lbs. at the Mud Hole being trolled. Good catches of fluke continue on the black side of Ambrose on fish belly and sand eels. Plenty of blackfish at the Marine Parkway bridge and Jersey rocks on fiddlers and greens. Flounder starting at Gerritsen Beach and Jamaica Bay.

Captain Walt of the **Flamingo III** reports catches have been good everyday working off the Jersey Highlands and Long Branch, despite the strong winds last week. Diamond jigs have been doing the job. Saturday and Sunday found the fish moving a little to the south. Stripers have started moving in to take their place in local grounds, namely the Tin Can and between the Channels. The bass are starting their fall procession down the beach. Blues are ranging from 2-18 lbs. depending on what school you run into.

Captain Tom of the **Elsie K III** has switched over to flounders and he says it looks like an excellent fall flounder season is about to break loose.

Captain Butch of the **Zephyr** is having excellent blackfishing with a nice smattering of sea bass. On Saturday, Harry (last name unknown) scored with 55 blacks to 8½ lbs. Sunday was good too, fishing Seabright. The 8 lb. pool fish was caught by "Pappy." Fish are averaging 2½ to 6 lbs. and fares are having no problem filling a 5 gal. pail. Greens and fiddlers are the hook bait.

STATEN ISLAND

Santo's Sport Shop says that the weaks and blues still being caught off Oakwood on live snappers and bunker while weaks up to 12 lbs. and blues up to 16 lbs. are making wire liners happy. Stripers have started at Penny Beach. Kevin weighed in a 20 lber.

NATIONAL SCENE:

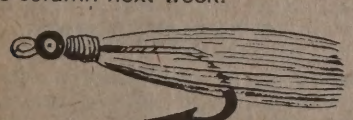
(Continued from page 6.)

and no cod to catch in the winter. They led him to the canyon, where he's been fishing ever since—despite losing gear to the Japanese. Lou stated that the productive areas of the canyons aren't very wide, and that U.S. fishermen required protection from the Japanese in order to fish there.

In an interesting sidelight, Rep. Schneider asked Puskus if all the San Diego skippers were concerned about this issue. Lou, who knows some of these men personally, was able to report that two he had talked to recently felt that inclusion of tunas in the 200 mile limit would not harm them.

The third panel included your reporter, Bruce Freeman, New Jersey Administrator of Marine Fisheries, and Rep. Howard. Freeman noted that the Japanese are encouraging conflicts by working ever closer to the 100 fathom line. At times they effectively shut off the 120 miles of productive water between Block and Wilmington Canyons. Bruce also detailed the resulting increase in the Japanese swordfish catch—and the economic waste that represents.

Representative Howard delivered a high-powered statement emphasizing the economic importance of sport fishing and the many ports dependent on it. He further noted that it's only logical to bring the one loophole in the 200-Mile Limit law that's causing problems back under our jurisdiction. Though not a member of the Committee, Howard does carry a lot of influence in Congress as chairman of the House Transportation Committee. He has the strings to pull, and is interested enough in this legislation to give it his best shot. The co-sponsor list is up to 22, but we need many more. Representative Forsythe, the ranking Republican on the Subcommittee, is on the fence and particularly needs lots of correspondence favorable to H.R. 4457. Representative Schneider's staff feels that there could be action on this bill in the near future. Write to your Congressman right now asking for his support of this vital legislation. Just address him at U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. Additional reports on these hearings will be included in this column next week.



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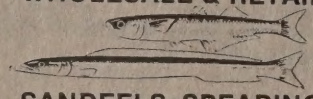

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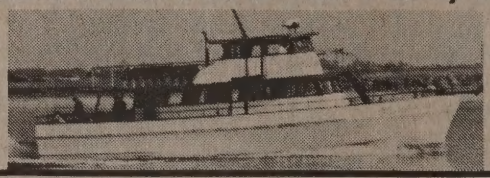

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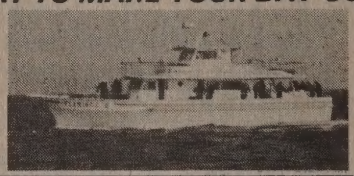

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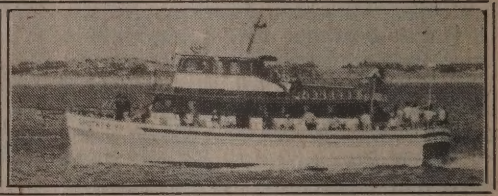

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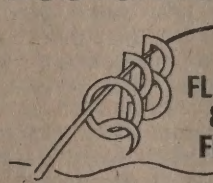

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North Shore Report

by Martin Garrell

Sunday. They're taking drifted worms and cut bait. Try blackfishing at the lighthouses on green crabs or fiddlers. Some fluke still around at Flynn's Knoll. Tons of snappers off all the beaches and crabs are still around off the Stapleton Piers.

CITY ISLAND

Greg Warner of **City Island Bait & Tackle** spoke about the good blackfishing being found at Pea Island and No Nations. Both fiddler and green crabs have been effective baits. Lots of the fish are 2 to 3 pounders, but some to 9 are being caught. Flounder action is picking up steam around City Island and at Sands Point. A good run of school bass at Rodman's Neck, Harts Island, and in tight around City Island has kept striper fans busy. Most fish are being taken on rebel and worm combos.

GLEN COVE

Excellent flounder fishing in Dosoris Pond and around Davidson's according to Dave at **Glen Cove Sport Shop**. Fish are of good size and are

Alec Ramirez shows off weaks of 8 and 9 lbs. taken at Eaton's Neck. Photo courtesy of Four Winds Bait and Tackle.

being taken on sandworms. He labeled blackfishing at fair with most of the action in tight to the beaches. A couple of 18 lb. class blues in the harbor last week on bunker, but no great show of fish as of yet. "Pop" Mutter trolled a 12 lb. weak last Thursday off of Week's Pt.

HUNTINGTON

George Valentine of **Four Winds Bait & Tackle** said that big blues raided schools of bunker in the harbors last week with the largest being a 20½ lber. taken by Joe Giani on Thursday. Blackfishing remains good to excellent at 11B and off of Marshall Field while porgies are still available at buoy 13. Flounder are just getting underway in the harbor. Fish to ¾ of a lb. on sand worms. Some excellent catches of stripers on wire and umbrellas at Eatons on the weekend. Bob Schneider and his son Joe trolled over 30 bass to 14½ lbs. Most were in the 4 to 8 lb. class. Big blues to 15 lbs. were mixed with the bass.

Capt. Packy Collins of the **Ever Ready** said that fares averaged ½ dozen blues apiece this week on jigs with Billy Jr. handling the wheel. Some stripers were mixed in with the blues on Saturday. Last sailing dates for the season will be Oct. 17 and 18.

NORTHPORT

Tom at **Bowmans Sporting Goods** said that boatmen have been banging away at the blues at buoy 15 and Target Rock on trolled umbrella rigs. He named buoy 13 as the place to go for those looking for blackfish and flounder. Most of the blacks averaging 2-3 lbs., but some bigger fish are mixed in. Crabs and clams for the blacks and clams and worms for the flatties. Tom expects that blues will break loose in the harbor any day now

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OCTOBER ALE

(Continued from page 19.)

spinning tackle, but those rods are usually too soft and limber as a rule, and cannot properly set the hook or haul that fish off the bottom as well as conventional tackle can.

In the western end of the Sound (my bailiwick) good fall blackfishing can be had from shore along the Bronx or Westchester shore, from the jetties at both ends of Orchard Beach or the jetty in Fort Schuyler, and under the City Island Bridge. Small boats have ready access to such popular spots as the old CBS tower, Glen Island, Fort Slocum, Nonations Rocks, Stepping Stone Light, Execution Light, or Hart Island. Many of the points on the north shore also produce very well; places like Hewlett's, Barker's, Sands, Prospect, or Mott's Points. As you proceed further east, places like Matinecock and Center Island boast of prolific reefs, and many of the deep-water areas near mid-Sound buoys are good too.

Blackfish bites are initially felt as slight pecks that may be misconstrued as bergall bites. Actually, these are the preliminary tastings of wary blackfish, sampling the bait before they swallow it. And swallow it they will, if they like it and if you don't scare 'em off by trying to set the hook at every tiny nibble. They'll swallow that bait—shell and all, pass it back into the throat to crush it, then ingest it into the stomach. Wait for the sharp tug that signals acceptance, then haul back quickly on that rod and start reeling as fast as you can, to get that fish off the bottom before he gets you stuck in it. Be prepared to do battle with a fish that doesn't know when to quit, and use a landing net if it's a big fish, so you won't lose it. They're good eating too, especially when filleted, breaded, and fried to a crisp; golden brown, and washed down with a nice, cold brew. Yes, sir! That's my idea of an October ale.

as there are plenty of bunker around and we've had lots of northerly winds.

KINGS PARK

Bob Koliner of **OK Bait And Tackle** said that all the wind of last week kept most boats inside the harbor where they did a nice job on flounder in the 1/2 to 1 lb. range. Some larger fish can be found outside along the beaches whenever winds permit. A few blackfish outside also but the same goes for this fishing. Boatmen have been using umbrella rigs and casting plugs to take some school bass along local beaches, while others content themselves with blues in the 3 lb. class at the mouth of the Nissequogue River.

MOUNT SINAI

Dick of **Dick's Sporting Goods** said blackfishing remained good of of Shoreham, Rocky Point, Miller Place and Oldfield Point for those using worms, clams or crabs. Inside of Mt. Sinai and Port Jefferson Harbor lots of decent flounder are available. Worms and clams work best and chum is a big help too. Big blues being trolled on spoons and umbrella rigs from 1/2 to 1 mile off of area beaches. An occasional bass is mixed with them.

North Fork Report

by Martin Garrell

AQUEBOGUE

Ed Kopack of **Warren's Bait and Tackle** said that blues from 5-10 lbs. are spread from the Northville pipe

Paul Ortez, Lenny Yeneic and Clem Reseska with a pair of nice weaks caught at the Obstruction Buoy aboard the Aquamarine. Photo courtesy of Bowman's Sporting Goods.

line to buoy 5 and are being taken by trollers using umbrella rigs and wire line. Out near Horton's Pt., large single surgical tubes are being used to take blues into the teens and bass up into the 20 lb. class during the early morning and evening hours. The Gut came alive this weekend with boatmen using white and yellow bucktails scoring on both blues and stripers. Flounder in the 3/4 to 1½ lb. class are in the bay off of the Grey Goose and at buoy R2. Both sand worms and bloodworms have been equally effective. Blackfish at the pipeline and for casters off of local beaches on either green crabs or fiddler crabs.

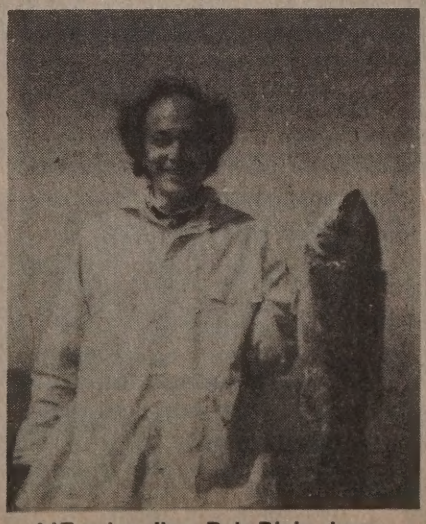
SOUTHOLD

Ace of the **Port of Egypt Fishing Station** spoke of good blackfishing at the Orient Point Lighthouse and at Mulford Pt. on green or fiddler crabs. Ace weighed in fish up to 9 lbs. this past week. Big porgies still available in Petty's Bight right out in front of the station on clams and worms. Flounder activity has been on the picky side due to all of last week's wind. Best bets are the Orient fish traps or Long Beach. Inside the Bay, Ace suggested trying Dering Harbor, the oyster factory, pipe's cove and inside bug light. For bay blacks, the Brickyard and Greenlawns areas have been producing plenty of action although the fish are somewhat smaller than at Orient.

GREENPORT

Captain Dave Brennan of the **Peconic Star** called with one of the most unusual pieces of info in awhile. Tuesday's low hook of 22 porgies was S.C. Bishop of Far Rockaway. Fishing in 130' of water with 10 oz. of lead, the skipper couldn't figure why Mr. Bishop had so few fish while everyone else was knee deep in porgies. Dave investigated and discovered that Mr. Bishop had just reached his 100th birthday and was celebrating with his 80 yr. old son with a couple bottles of champagne and a porgy rod in his hand. The trip was a birthday present. Your reporter hopes that when he hits 100, that he can be doing the same. Another passenger, age 86, had a garbage can full of porgies. Dave said his catches have all been large to jumbo. Monday's pool winner was a 9½ lb. blackfish for Howard Setkowski of North Babylon. Just a couple of more weeks of great porgy fishing is expected, with blackfish to follow on their heels (or tails).

Art White of **A.P. White Bait Shop** said that bluefishing in Pigeon Rip, Plum Gut and east of Gardiner's Island continues at a hectic pace. All of the action is on jigs. Art weighed up a beautiful striper this weekend. The 57 lber. was taken on a red tube trolled in the Sound by an angler who preferred anonymity. Good blackfishing at the Orient Light and around Plum Island on green crabs and a fine run of flounder in the 1-1¼ lb. class on clams and worms just outside of Stirling Harbor. Art reminded that the open boats **Brand X** and **Peconic Star** a doing a bang-up job on big porgies in 90' of water off of New London.



LIF subscriber Bob Blair shows the 7 lb. black he caught on a sandworm in L. I. Sound.

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South Fork Report

by Stu Miller

SHINNECOCK

The **Captain Clark II** reports last week's ocean wreck trip saw excellent results on sea bass and blacks which were pulled at a steady pace. Saturday's high hook was Summerset N.J. angler Richard Erickson with 38 blackfish and 19 sea bass. Pool winner was an 8½ lb. black. Ocean wreck trips are also scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, October 17 and 18.

Tom at **Speck's Bait and Tackle** tells us that flounders have been biting like crazy all over the Shinnecock area with hotspots being the Basket and the CG station. Fish are mixed sizes, hitting on all tides with worms working best, followed by clams.

Good blackfishing at the jetty and in the canal on

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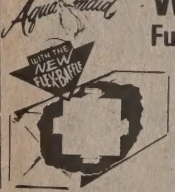

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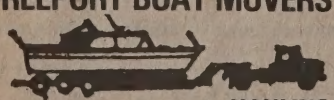

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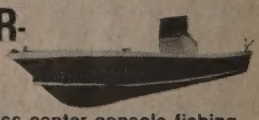

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Surf Report

by Fred Golofaro

Whatever the extent of surf activity this past week, north shore casters appear to have benefited most from the gale force winds which raked the Island last week. At the peak of the northwest blow, big blues, along with an occasional striper assaulted an array of plugs thrown by surfmen who braved gusts that sometimes reached 50 miles an hour. Apparently the best action was found from Huntington in the stretch east to almost Rocky Point. Let's take a look at the South Shore before covering this North Shore activity in greater detail.

From his Seaford Tackle Shop, Lon Wanser told me he heard from several customers that a bluefish blitz occurred at Jones Beach Parking Field 6 near the end of last week. Blues, mostly 6-8 lbers., took any kind of plug or tin that was thrown at them, according to what Lon was told. Striped bass reports have been very scant from the area.

Moving a little to the east, live eels continue to produce a few big blues at Democrat Point and along the Gilgo shore. A couple of choppers did fall to plugs one day last week. Parking fields 3-5 at Robert Moses saw an occasional school bass taken on tins and plugs during the week. The largest was a 15 lber.

Out at Moriches, surf activity has been generally picky, although some medium sized blues were taken on Saturday on 7½'' Rebels. An occasional stripers falls to a tin or popping plug along the National Seashore stretch of beach to the west of Smith's Point. Ozzie Van Helmond of Sayville used a plug to take a 37 lb. 13 oz. cow during the week. He weighed the fish at J&R Sport Center in Oakdale.

Thom of **Speck's Bait and Tackle** in Southampton relayed word that the Shinnecock Inlet jetty produced a striper of 22 lbs. for Rick Scarlata last Monday. The fish took a popper. Rick returned on Tuesday and this time used a swimming plug to take a 26¾ lb. bass. Both fish were taken on incoming water off of the east jetty. Things slowed during Wednesday and Thursday's wind but some fish were apparently in the area on Saturday. Thom knew of a half dozen stripers to 31 lbs. taken on outgoing water from the inlet's rocks. Thom noted too the lack of bluefish action along the sand beaches.

From his Montauk Tackle Shop, Johnny Kronuch labeled the weekend as very picky but added that some fish were taken during the latter part of last week. Most of the action, which was made up of weaks and some bass occurred up front under the Light.

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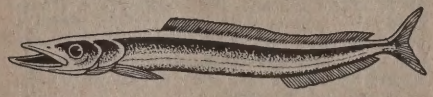

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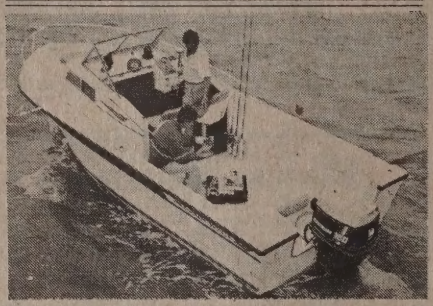

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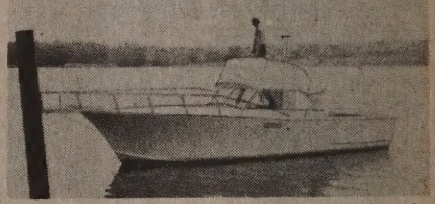

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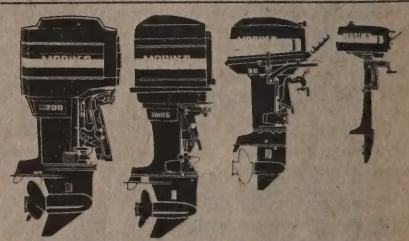

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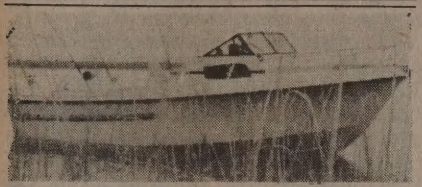

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19' MAKO 140 h.p. Power trim; under 30 hrs. Depth finder/alarm, VHF radio. Many extras. Shoreline Galv. Trlr. w/elec. winch. Best offer. 201-666-0399.

AQUASPORT SALE! All models reduced. Strong's Marine Center, Main Rd., Mattituck. 516-298-4020

23' SEA CRAFT Cuddy 235 Merc. Cruiser. Excl. cond. In water at Montauk. Must sell. $7500. 516-267-3371; 997-7438.

BOATING EQPT.

Ross Flasher/Recorder - $395. New & Used Mercruiser Props. & Parts. Call for details. Eves. 516-484-0530.

BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & Permanent hitches for sale or rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-06 Broadway, Woodside, NY. 212-426-7039.

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CUSTOM MARINE WOODWORK: Specializing in one of a kind pieces. No job too small. Dress up your boat. Teak step pads made to order. After 6PM.516-623-1639.

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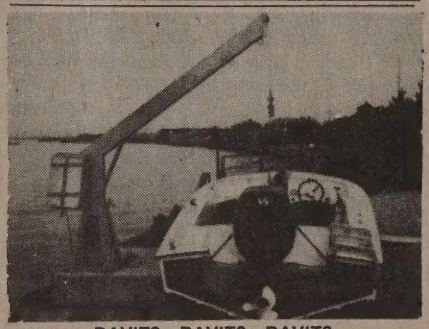

DAVITS—DAVITS—DAVITS
Most complete line of Davits & Marine Elevators. Expert installation. North Peter's Co., Inc. 516-234-8282. Tom.

COMPASSES—COMPASSES—COMPASSES
Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie Compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE, 516-757-7169.

Wholesale Marine Fasteners, Stainless, silicon bronze. Full line. Shop parts. O-Rings. Free catalog. ARONMARINE, 61 Mastic Beach, New York 11951; 516-281-3366.

Fiberglass boat repairs. Wood, glass restorations. 12 years experience in Long Island. Hauling available. 516-281-3610. Duck boats custom built.

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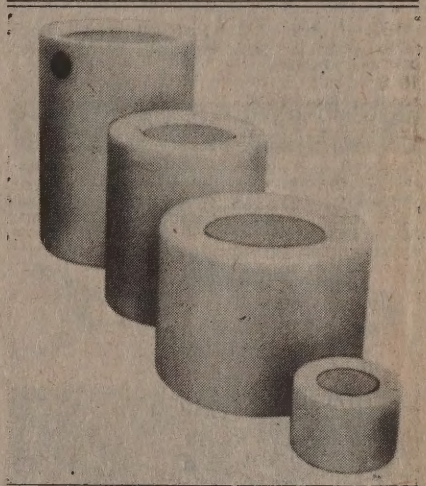
2 11½' & 1, 9' rods, new wrappings. 3 Luxor, 2 Rue Pacific reels. Ball Band waders, size 9. 10" Detecto Dial scale. Excl. cond. Best offers. 516-744-3635.

UMBRELLA RIGS, "Mini," 14", center take-apart design, completely rigged w/your choice color tubing, bead chain & 8/0 hooks. 6 arm: were $12.95+, now $7.95; 2/$15; 4 arm: were $10.95+; now $5.95; 2/$11. These are end-of-year clearance prices on limited quantity of merchandise, so get them while they last. Colors avail: red, green, yellow, fluorescent red, green & yellow, white, black, natural & purple. J&J TACKLE, P.O. Box Whippany, NJ 07981; 201-887-8560.

FOUR SEASONS RIGS. Custom fishing rig manufacturer. "Night-Glow" & Hot Pink whiting & ling; also flounder corn special, Tandem red dot fluke. Hi-Lo pearl weakfish. Bluefish mullet. Over 60 different saltwater rigs. Dealers inquiries welcome. P.O. Box 1552, Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742; 201-929-1881.

Whale of a Sale. Send for free catalog; enclose $.50 for handling. ADKINS FISHING TACKLE, P.O. Box 224, Mt. Sinai, NY 11766.



LIVE BAIT WELLS, pumps & accessories. For free brochure send $.25 P/H. The Caddy Co., 57 Bayonne Ave., Dept. L, Central Islip, NY 11722, 516-234-0144.

B-P FISHING Tackle Manufacturer—most often copied! Never equaled! The largest selection of rigs, jigs, tubes & leaders; over 200 items. No comparison by anyone. Dealers call: 201-688-6059 or write: 22 Portland Rd., Union, NJ 07083.

FLOUNDER KILLER RIGS. Flounders are committing suicide on this famous 3-hook rig especially designed for the "meat fisherman." Special design & construction keeps tangles at a minimum. All hand-made finest quality material. 3 completely tied rigs for $3.50. Send check or M.O. to: P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpke., Merrick, NY 11566.

#6 Sproat flounder hooks. Hand tied. 6/1.00. A. Kaplan, 35-63 80th St., Jackson Hgts., NY 11372.

LOOKING FOR REAL "REEL" PRICES? Send $.50 to Marlin Sports, Inc., P.O. Box 555, Tenafly, NJ 07670. We Carry Penn, Daiwa, Fin-Nor, Zebco, Shimano, Ryobi & more.

COD KILLER RIGS. Long proven double designed rig that will fill the freezer for you. 3 completely tied rigs. $3.50. Whiting/ling killer rigs: 3 needle sharp Mustad beaks tied in at just the right height to get you big catches. A time tested rig avail. here only. All rigs hand tied, finest materials. 3 completely tied rigs - $4. P. Miller, 150 Babylon Ave., Merrick, NY 11566.

MUSTAD HOOKS, Rosco swivels, stainless steel duo-lock snaps, split rings, coastlock snap swivels, brass 3-ways. Bucktail tied treble & single hooks & other products. Send $.15 for complete catalog: TACKLE ENTERPRISES, Box 1163, Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742. Dealer inquiries invited; reply on letterhead.

MISCELLANEOUS

FULLY LICENSED CAPTAIN. Available for charters, water deliveries, transfers, individual trips; boat handling instruction. 516-795-4498.

Continued on next page.

Marine Transport—T.K.'s BOAT HAULING. You call; we haul! 24 hr. emergency service. Local & long distance; launching & hauling at any desired location. Up to 35'. Fully insured carrier. Call: T.K., 516-623-2967.

EMBLEMS: Direct from manufacturer. Swiss embroidered; custom made to your design. Send sample or sketch & quantity needed for free quotation. DAVID HAEMMERLE & Sons, Inc., Box 711, West New York, NJ 07093.

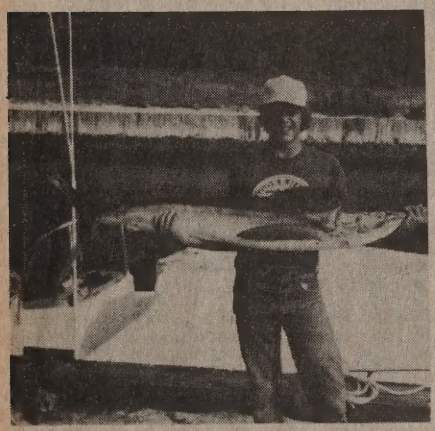
HUNTERS—WHY PAY MORE? Have your deer skinned, cut, freezer wrapped by professional butcher. 13th year deer cutting. $30. Bob, 665-8839.

SUMMER DOCKAGE—Now taking reservations: $16 per ft. 23' limit. Five minutes from Shinnecock Inlet. Also have a small selection of select brokerage boats for sale. SUNSHINE MARINE, 23 Rampasture Rd., Hampton Bays, N.Y. 11946. 516-728-1339.

FOR SALE: Mako shark mount. 450 lbs., 8 ft. long. Perfect condition. $500. Will negotiate or trade. Paul, 516-725-0967.

BEACH BUGGIES

1975 Chevy Blazer 4-wheel drive. Hard top + convertible. New ATV tires; loaded w/extras. $3895. Mon-Fr. 10-5 212-247-0333. Eves., etc. 516-569-4925.



Richard Haufman boated this nice white marlin on a Kona Head while fishing out of Shinnecock Inlet. Rich is 14-year-old. Subscriber photo.

Some of the fish weighed in prior to the weekend included a 30 lber. taken by Howard Guja, a 27 lber. for John Csajko and a 20 lber. for Joey Bragan. Tom Legnon had fish of 26 and 15 lbs. John reminded that bait remains thick at the Point and that bluefish were working out of casting range on Monday morning up front as well as along the south side. He added that haul seiners made a good haul of stripers early Monday along the south side.

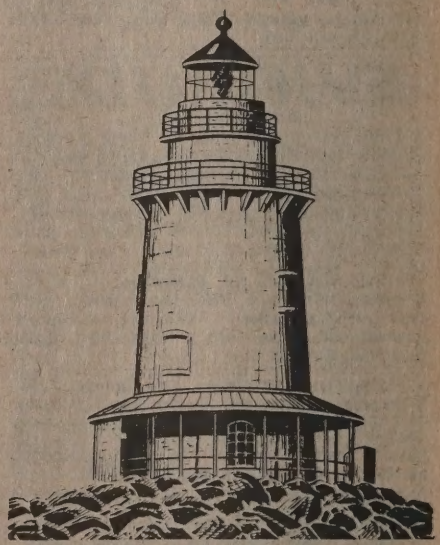
Moving over to the north shore, Greg at City Island Bait and Tackle said that things around his end of the Sound have been pretty slow in recent days. Last action he heard of amounted to a few blues taken on bunker chunks near the City Island bridge. Along the Glen Cove shore line, Dave spoke of a few blues on poppers and bunker chunks in the evening and early morning hours from local beaches. Rebels and small poppers accounting for some small stripers in the same areas.

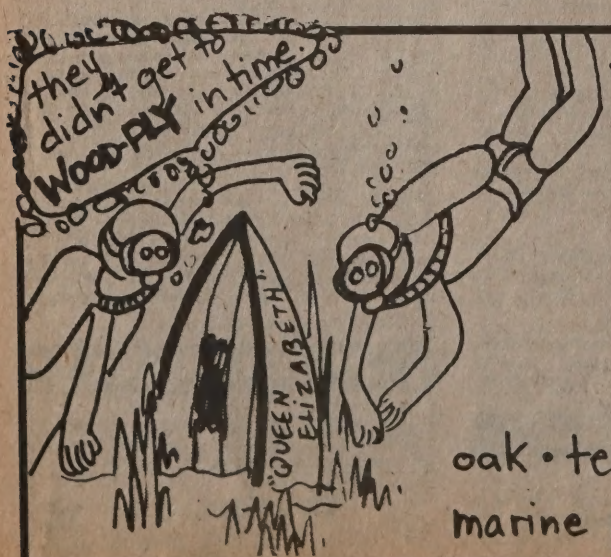
George Valentine of Four Winds Bait and Tackle in Huntington was the first to sound the horn on the big blues that wound up tight to the beach in all the wind. Most of the fish ranged anywhere from 6-12 lbs., but bigger fish were in evidence. Surface plugs along with bunker chunks were being used by most casters at Caumsett, Crab Meadow and Callahan's. On Thursday morning, Chris Jacobsen beached 7 choppers up to 13½ lbs. at Caumsett using popping plugs.

From his Northport Tackle Shop, Tom Bowman also relayed word of some hot bluefish action along the Sound shore from Crab Meadow to Ashroken. Most of the activity was in the early morning and evening hours on Thursday and Friday with mackerel and bunker chunks as well as plugs taking fish. Most of the fish weighed by Tom were in the 15 lb. range, but one monster of 21 lbs. was beached by a lucky angler. Just before speaking to Tom on Monday morning he had checked in a striper of 14 lbs. that took a popping plug at Makamah.

The Mt. Sinai area was not shortchanged in its quota of surf action this past week. Lots of blues from 6-10 lbs. with quite a few larger, including a 20 lber. were taken from Miller Place to points east on eels, bunker chunks and surface plugs. Among the effective plugs were large surface swimmers, pencil poppers, popping plugs and Polaris' in white and yellow. Bass in the 8-15 lb. range were mixed with the choppers and a couple of 30s were taken as well. The calm weekend returned the beaches back to their quiet state although casters were out in force both days.

Ed Kopack of Warren's Tackle Shop in Aquebogue said that there was a spark of life in the north fork surf this week with blues of mixed sizes being taken near the iron pier on mackerel and bunker chunks. Blues from 10-12 lbs. and school bass from 4-8 lbs. were taken on yellow RedFins at Mattituck while blues hit the beach at Horton's Point. The choppers showed a preference for blue and white poppers but were also taken on bunker chunks.





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oak • teak • mahogany • fir • glues •
marine plywood • fiberglass cloth + resin

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet...–0 50" is listed under "ON SANDY HOOK." –0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK		Breakwater Harbor		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT		NEWPORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THUR.	9:45	10:10	10:30	10:50	10:20	10:45	11:10	11:45	12:40	12:55	12:45	1:05	9:40	10:05	10/15
FRI.	10:35	11:05	11:20	11:45	11:15	11:45	–	12:00	1:30	1:45	1:35	1:55	10:30	11:00	10/16
SAT.	11:30	–	–	12:10	–	12:10	12:40	12:55	2:25	2:40	2:30	2:50	11:25	11:55	10/17
SUN.	12:05	12:25	12:40	1:10	12:45	1:15	1:35	1:55	3:25	3:40	3:25	3:50	–	12:25	10/18
MON.	1:05	1:25	1:45	2:15	1:50	2:15	2:45	3:00	4:40	4:55	4:30	4:55	12:55	1:25	10/19
TUE.	2:10	2:30	2:55	3:25	2:50	3:15	3:50	4:10	6:15	6:45	5:35	6:00	2:00	2:30	10/20
WED.	3:15	3:35	4:10	4:35	3:55	4:15	5:05	5:25	7:30	8:00	6:45	7:10	3:05	3:35	10/21
THUR.	4:20	4:40	5:15	5:35	5:00	5:20	6:05	6:30	8:35	9:00	7:50	8:15	4:10	4:35	10/22

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	–0 01
Red Bank, Navesink, R.I.	+0 48
Long Branch	–0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	–0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	–0 12
Seaside Park	–0 33
Mantoloking zbridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	–0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	–0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	–0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 46
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	–0 02
Rehoboth Beach	–0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	–0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	–0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Pontunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	–0 38
Democrat Point	–0 38
Coast Guard Station	–0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	–0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	–0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	–0 08
Herod Point	–0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	–0 20
Truman Beach	–0 42
Falkner Island	–0 13
Sachem Head	–0 10
Branford Harbor	–0 07
New Haven Harbor	–0 08
Milford Harbor	–0 07
Stratford	+0 27
Shelton	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor	–0 03
Saugatuck River	–0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	–0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land	–0 14
Montauk Inlet	–0 25
Montauk Point	–1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington	–0 33
Noank, Mystic River	–0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	–0 01
Norwich	+0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+1 10
Lyme	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	–0 10
Execution Light	–0 06
Manhasset Bay	–0 01
Hempstead Harbor	–0 11
City Island	–0 03
Rye Beach	–0 28
Port Chester	–0 09
Mamaroneck	–0 08
New Rocheele	–0 24
Davids Island	–0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	–0 10
Miami Beach	+1 17
East Point	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	–0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburg	+3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	–0 10
Tiverton	+0 21
Beavertail Point	–0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+0 10
Bristol	+0 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayett Point	+0 12
Pawtucket	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	–0 08
Point Judith Harbor	–0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Old Harbor	–0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

10/16	7:14	6:17
10/17	7:15	6:16
10/18	7:16	6:14
10/19	7:17	6:13
10/20	7:18	6:12
10/21	7:19	6:10
10/22	7:20	6:08

Moonrise/Moonset

10/16	8:53 PM	10:37 AM
10/17	9:43 PM	11:48 AM
10/18	10:40 PM	12:53 PM
10/19	11:41 PM	1:51 PM
10/20	–	2:40 PM
10/21	12:44 AM	3:22 PM
10/22	1:50 AM	3:58 PM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
10/27	10/6	10/13	10/20

The Original Knight

SOLUNAR TABLES

When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for this week as printed below have been taken from the original ***KNIGHT SOLUNAR TABLES.*** Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type face.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	6:50	12:35	7:35	1:20
Fri.	8:05	1:55	8:40	2:25
Sat.	9:05	2:55	9:40	3:25
Sun.	10:10	4:00	10:45	4:30
Mon.	11:15	5:05	11:45	5:30
Tues.	—	6:05	12:15	6:35
Wed.	12:50	6:55	1:05	7:25
Thurs.	1:40	7:45	1:55	8:05

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FAMILIES ★ CLUBS ★ GROUPS

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Per man, based on 6 man charter

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BLACKS • PORGIES
LING • SEA BASS
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Per man, based on 6 man charter

COD

$85.00
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